

Summary

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30/01/09 | **Tasmanian State and Regional Indicators** provides a summary of Tasmanian statistical information and is released on a quarterly basis. Updated topics in this release are: **Labour**, **Economic Activity** and **Industry**; plus a feature article: **Tasmania's unemployment rate at record low**. The **Population, Family and Community** and **Household Economic Resources** topics will be updated for the next release in April 2009.



Labour

30/01/09 | Includes: **Labour Force Status**, **Employment**, **Unemployment**, **Underemployment**, **Hours Worked**, **Average Weekly Earnings**, **Wage Price Index**, **Wage and Salary Earner Incomes**



Economic Activity

30/01/09 | Includes: **Gross State Product**, **Capital Expenditure**, **Consumer Price Index**, **House Price Index**, **Industry Value Added**, **Housing Finance**, **International Trade**, **Motor Vehicle Sales**



Industry

30/01/09 | Includes: **Industry Value Added**, **Agriculture**, **Mining**, **Manufacturing**, **Retail Trade**, **Tourist Accommodation**, **Building Approvals and Activity**, **Land Use**, **Business Counts**



Population

30/04/08 | Includes: **Population change**, **Components of change**, **Natural Increase**, **Births**, **Deaths**, **Life expectancy**, **Net Migration**, **Age structure**, **Population distribution**, **Country of birth**, **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population**



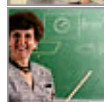
Family and Community

30/04/08 | Includes: **Family composition**, **Marriages and Divorces**, **Labour force status of parents**, **Child care**, **Contact arrangements**, **Children's Participation in sport**, **cultural and leisure activities**, **Social Involvement**, **Voluntary Work**, **Household type of Internet connection**



Household Economic Resources

30/04/08 | Includes: **Household income**, **Source of income**, **Home Ownership**, **Rent and Housing loan repayments**, **Household Expenditure**, **Household assets and liabilities**



Education

31/07/08 | Includes: **Schools**, **School students**, **School teachers**, **Higher education students**, **VET students**, **Apprentices & trainees**, **Age participation rates**, **Apparent retention rates**, **Students achieving literacy and numeracy benchmarks**, **Educational attainment**



Housing and Construction

31/07/08 | Includes: **Dwelling structure**, **Average household size**, **Building approvals**, **Property sales**, **Public housing**, **Employment in the construction industry**



Transport

31/07/08 | Includes: **Roads**, **Motor vehicles**, **Motor vehicle usage**, **Drivers' licenses**, **Persons killed or injured in road crashes**, **Method of travel to work**, **Bus passenger movements**, **Air passenger movements**, **Bass Strait ferry movements**, **Freight activity**



Crime and Justice

31/10/08 | Includes: **Courts**, **Offence categories**, **Prison sentences**, **Prisoners**, **Legal aid**, **Complaints to the Ombudsman**



Health

31/10/08 | Includes: **Causes of death**, **Long term conditions**, **Actions taken for health**, **Smoking**, **Alcohol consumption**, **Body mass index**, **Exercise levels**, **Nutrition**, **Disability status**, **Employment in health occupations**, **Immunisation**, **Private health insurance**, **Prescribed medications**, **Mental health**



Environment

31/10/08 | Includes: **Climate**, **Temperature**, **Rainfall**, **Water**, **Sea level**, **Sea temperature**, **Fisheries production**, **Agricultural impact of climate change**, **Natural resource management**, **Energy consumption**, **Greenhouse gas emissions**



Feature Article

30/01/09 | **Tasmania's unemployment rate at record low**: A discussion of recent trends in Tasmanian labour force statistics, which also explains some of the more common labour force concepts and definitions in understandable language. Uses data from the ABS monthly and quarterly Labour Force surveys.

In This Issue



IN THIS ISSUE

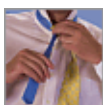
Tasmanian State and Regional Indicators (cat. no. 1307.6) provides a summary of Tasmanian statistical information and is released on a quarterly basis. Topics this issue: **Labour**, **Economic Activity**, and **Industry**; plus a **Feature Article**: Tasmania's unemployment rate at record low.

Explanatory Notes are not included in the form found in other ABS publications. Please see the Explanatory Notes contained in related ABS publications (links to source documents are provided in the summary tables).

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the ABS on 1300 135 070 or email client.services@abs.gov.au.

If you have any comments or feedback about this product please email tasmania.statistics@abs.gov.au.

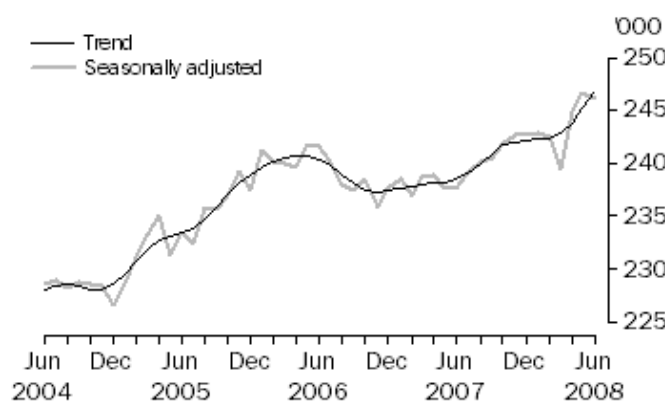
Labour



LABOUR

The annual average size of the labour force in Tasmania in 2007-08 was 242,600, increasing 2.0% from 2006-07. The annual average participation rate also increased from 60.3% in 2006-07 to 61.0% in 2007-08.

LABOUR FORCE, Tasmania

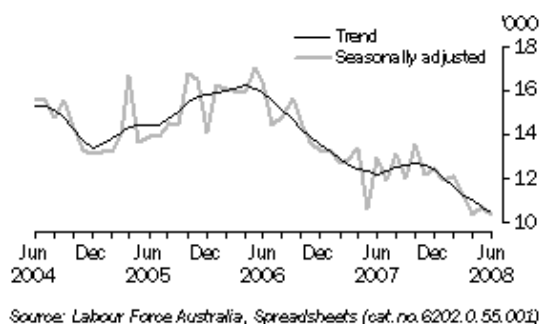


PARTICIPATION RATE, Tasmania

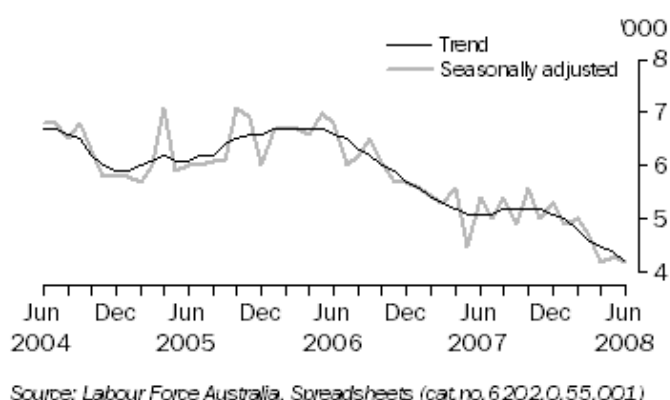


The average number of people employed continued to grow, increasing 2.8% from 2006-07 to 2007-08. The average number of people in full-time work also continued to increase, reaching 158,600 in 2007-08.

UNEMPLOYED PERSONS, Tasmania

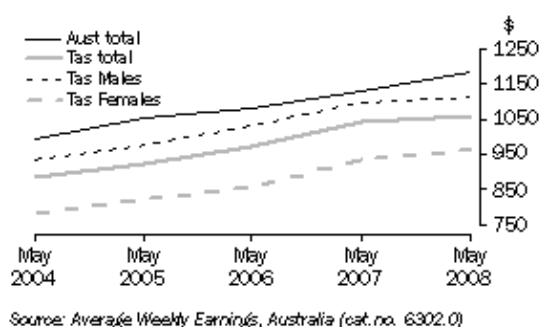


UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, Tasmania



Tasmania's trend unemployment rate fell to an historically low level of 4.2% in June 2008. The Australian unemployment rate reached 4.2% at the same time. This was the lowest level of unemployment recorded for Tasmania since the current series began in 1978.

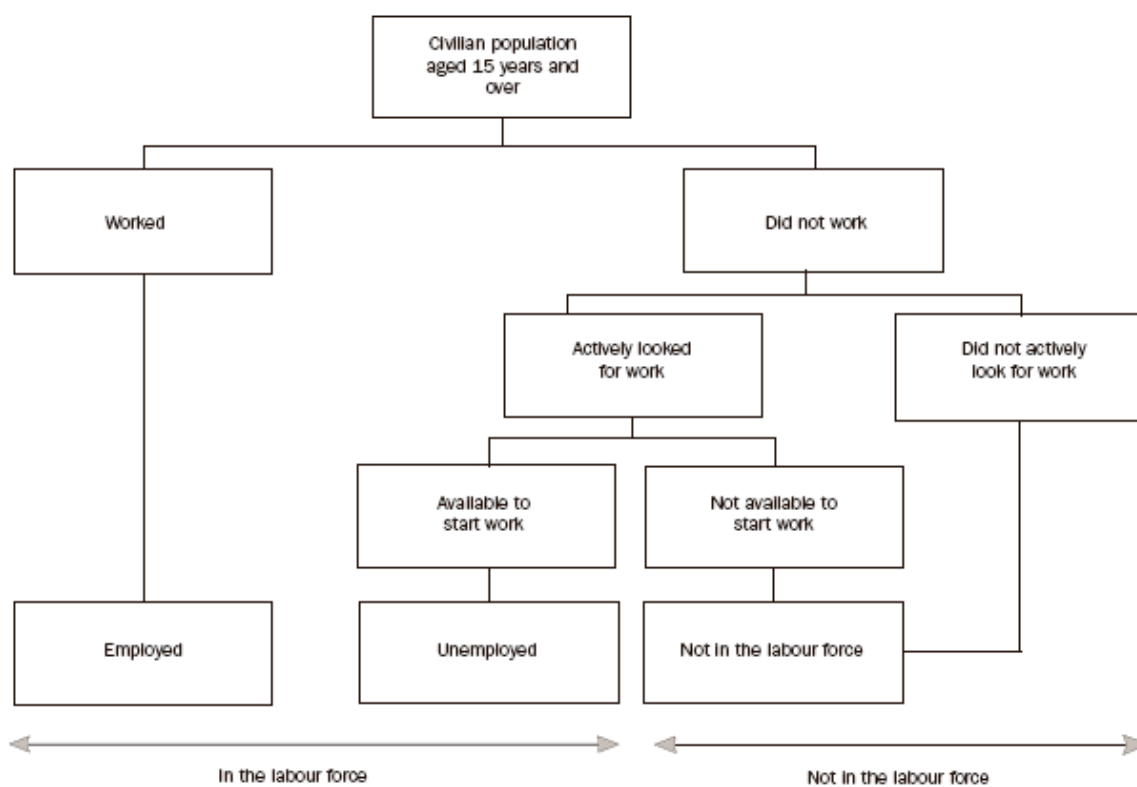
AVERAGE WEEKLY TOTAL EARNINGS, Full-time adults: trend



In May 2008, the average weekly ordinary time earnings (ie no overtime earnings) figure for full time adults in Tasmania was \$1,017.90, an increase of 2.0% on the May 2007 figure. In May

2008, the average weekly ordinary time earnings figure for full-time employed Tasmanian males was \$1,054.80, and for females was \$947.50. The Australian average weekly ordinary time earnings figure for full-time employed adults in May 2008 was \$1,131.50.

Australian labour force framework(a)



(a) This diagram provides a simple overview. The detailed rules for determining whether a person is classified as employed, unemployed or not in the labour force are outlined in 'Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods' (6102.0.55.001).

Source: *Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (6102.0.55.001).

The concepts and definitions underlying Australian labour statistics are based on the conventions, recommendations and guidelines developed and maintained by the International Labour Organisation and the United Nations Statistical Office. Australian labour statistics comply in almost every respect with these international standards. Labour force figures are derived from the Labour Force Survey component of the Monthly Population Survey. The Labour Force Survey includes all persons aged 15 years and over except members of the permanent defence forces, certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments customarily excluded from census and estimated population counts, overseas residents in Australia, and members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

SOURCES

Australian Labour Market Statistics (ABS cat. no. 6105.0)

Average Weekly Earnings, Australia (ABS cat. no. 6302.0)

Employment Arrangements and Superannuation, Australia (ABS cat. no. 6361.0)

Forms of Employment, Australia (ABS cat. no. 6359.0)

Job Vacancies, Australia (ABS cat. no. 6354.0)

Labour Force, Australia (ABS cat. no. 6202.0)

Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery, Monthly (ABS cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly (ABS cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)

Labour Mobility, Australia (ABS cat. no. 6209.0)

Labour Price Index, Australia (ABS cat. no. 6345.0)

Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods (ABS cat. no. 6102.0.55.001)

Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia (ABS cat. no. 6220.0)

Regional Wage and Salary Earner Statistics, Australia (ABS cat. no. 5673.0)

Tasmanian Key Indicators (ABS cat.no. 1304.6)

Underemployed Workers, Australia (ABS cat. no. 6265.0)

Further information can also be found on the Labour Statistics Theme Page of the ABS website.

Economic Activity

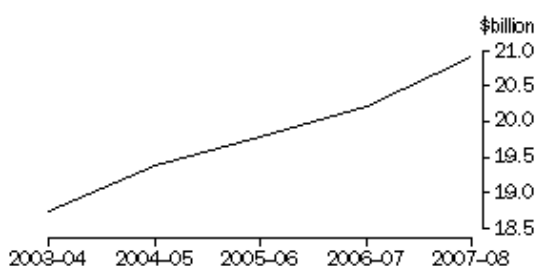


ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

GROSS STATE PRODUCT (GSP)

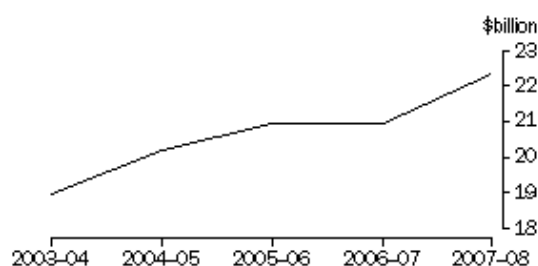
Tasmania's Gross State Product (GSP) reached \$20,907 million in 2007-08, an increase of \$686 million or 3.4% from the 2006-07 figure of \$20,221 million. In 2007-08, household final consumption expenditure was the largest component of total GSP, contributing \$12,668 million (60.6%). At the same time, government final consumption expenditure accounted for \$4,662 million (22.3%) of GSP. State final demand in 2007-08 increased by 6.8% on the 2006-07 estimate of \$20,942 million.

GROSS STATE PRODUCT, Tasmania (chain volume measures)



Source: Australian National Accounts:
State Accounts (cat. no. 5220.0)

STATE FINAL DEMAND, Tasmania (chain volume measures)



Source: Australian National Accounts:
State Accounts (cat. no. 5220.0)

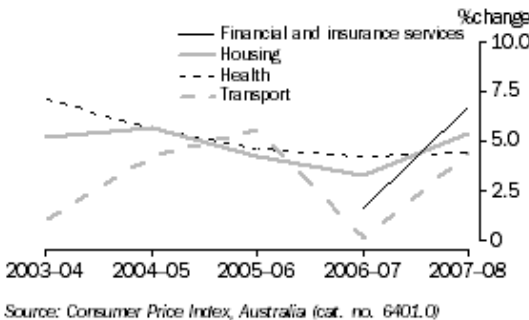
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI)

In 2007-08 the all groups CPI in Hobart increased by 3.0% from 2006-07. Rises in financial and insurance services (6.7%), housing (5.4%), health (4.4%) and transportation (4.4%) were the main contributors to this change.

**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (all groups),
Hobart**



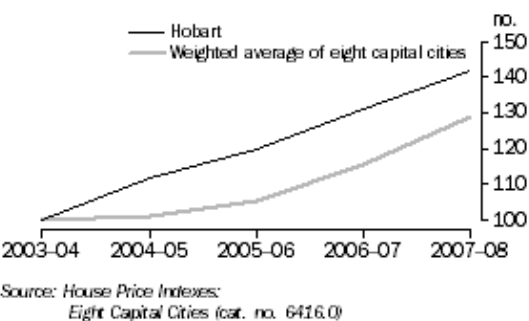
**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (selected groups),
Hobart**



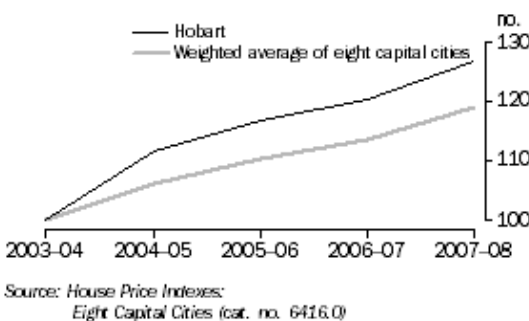
HOUSE PRICE INDEX

Preliminary data showed the price index for established houses in Hobart in 2007-08 increased by 8.2% compared to 11.9% nationally. At the same time preliminary data for the price index for project homes in Hobart showed an increase of 5.3% compared to 4.9% nationally.

**HOUSE PRICE INDEX (established homes),
Hobart**



**HOUSE PRICE INDEX (project homes),
Hobart**

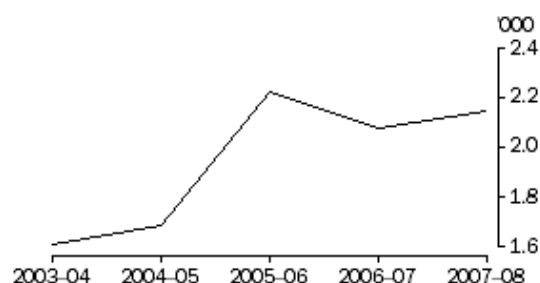


HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS

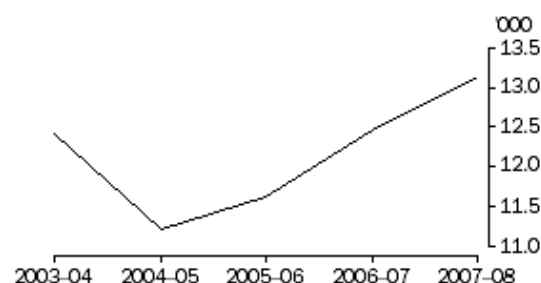
The number of first home buyers' houses (owner occupied) financed in Tasmania in 2007-08 increased by 3.3% from 2,073 in 2006-07. At the same time non-first home buyers' dwellings (owner occupied) financed increased by 5.5% from 12,461 in 2006-07.

**FIRST HOME BUYERS (Tasmania),
Number of Dwellings Financed**

**NON-FIRST HOME BUYERS (Tasmania),
Number of Dwellings Financed**



Source: Housing Finance, Australia (cat. no. 5609.0)



Source: Housing Finance, Australia (cat. no. 5609.0)

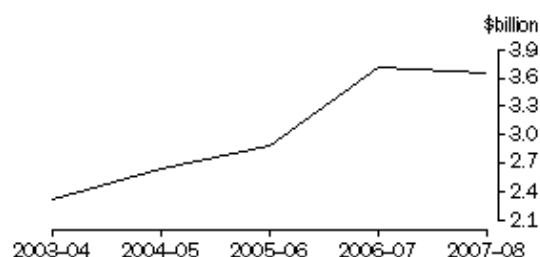
INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE

In 2007-08 the value of Tasmanian goods exported overseas was \$3,640.0 million, a decrease of 2.0% from 2006-07. At the same time, the value of goods imported directly into Tasmania was \$691.5 million, which represented an increase of 12.6% from 2006-07.

In 2007-08 the major Tasmanian export destination was Japan, buying \$726.4 million worth of Tasmanian goods or 15.9% more than in 2006-07. Tasmania's major source of imports in 2007-08 was China, dispatching goods worth \$96.3 million to the Tasmanian market.

Zinc was the major single export commodity in 2007-08, contributing \$744.8 million or 20.5% to total Tasmanian exports. Also in 2007-08, pulp and waste paper was the highest value imported commodity representing \$77.5 million or 11.2% of total imports.

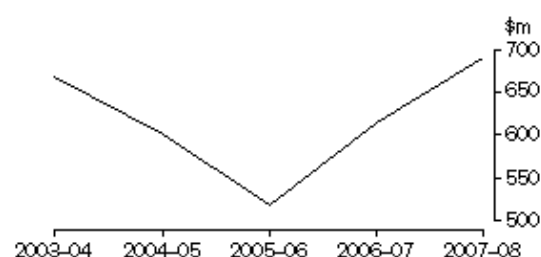
VALUE OF MERCHANDISE EXPORTS, Tasmania



Value: free on board (f.o.b.)

Source: ABS data available on request, International trade

VALUE OF MERCHANDISE IMPORTS, Tasmania



Value: customs value

Source: ABS data available on request, International trade

SOURCES

Australian Industry (ABS cat. no. 8155.0)

Australian National Accounts, State Accounts (ABS cat. no. 5220.0)

Consumer Price Index, Australia (ABS cat. no. 6401.0)

House Price Indexes, Eight Capital Cities (ABS cat. no. 6416.0)

Housing Finance, Australia (ABS cat. no. 5609.0)

Labour Price Index, Australia (ABS cat. no. 6345.0)

Lending Finance, Australia (ABS cat. no. 5671.0)

Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia (ABS cat. no. 5625.0)

Industry



INDUSTRY

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

In 2006-07 the gross value of agricultural commodities produced in Tasmania was \$963 million. This was a decrease on the 2005-06 figure (\$987 million) of 2%. The value of crops decreased by 9%, from \$444 million to \$404 million, while the value of livestock products (which mainly consists of wool, milk and eggs) increased by 11%, from \$290 million to \$322 million.

MINING

In 2006-07 total mineral commodities produced were worth \$1,173 million. In the previous twelve months, mineral production increased by 17% up from \$1,002 million. The most substantial increase was in metallic mineral production, which grew from \$920 million in 2005-06 to \$1,081 in 2006-07, an increase of 18%.

TOTAL MINERAL PRODUCTION, Tasmania



Source: Mining Operations, Australia (cat. no. 8415.0)

RETAIL TURNOVER

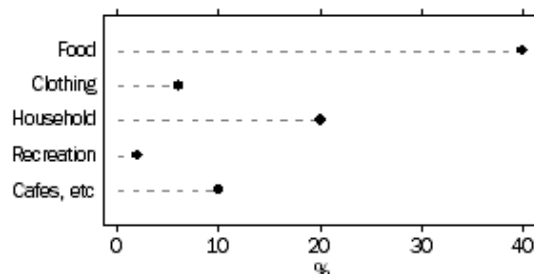
In 2008-09, the value of retail turnover in Tasmania was \$4,709 million. This represented an increase of 5% from the previous year, and an increase of 24% over the last 5 years. Food retailing contributed \$1,877 million of the total value of retail turnover (40%), followed by household retailing \$922 (20%) and cafes, restaurants and takeaway food services \$454 million (10%).

TOTAL RETAIL TURNOVER, Tasmania
(original series)

RETAIL TURNOVER, Tasmania, 2007-08
(per cent contribution)



Source: Retail Trade, Australia (cat. no. 8501.0)



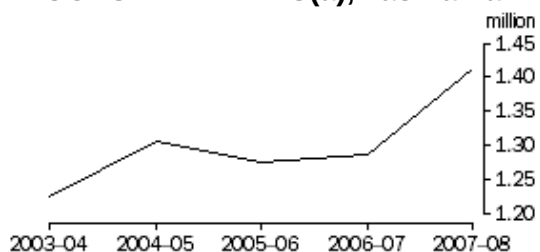
Source: Retail Trade, Australia (cat. no. 8501.0)

TOURIST ACCOMMODATION

There were 1.4 million guest arrivals in Tasmania during 2007-08. This is an increase of 10% from the previous year and an increase of 15% over the past 5 years.

Takings from tourist accommodation establishments increased over the last 5 years by 33% from \$139 million to \$185 million, with the average takings per room per night rising from \$108 in 2003-04 to \$128 in 2007-08.

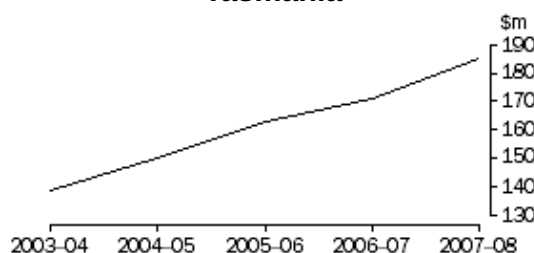
GUEST ARRIVALS(a), Tasmania



(a) Hotels, Motels and Serviced Apartments with 15 or more rooms.

Source: Tourist Accommodation, Australia (cat. no. 8635.0)

TAKINGS FROM ACCOMMODATION(a), Tasmania



(a) Hotels, Motels and Serviced Apartments with 15 or more rooms.

Source: Tourist Accommodations, Australia (cat. no. 8635.0)

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION

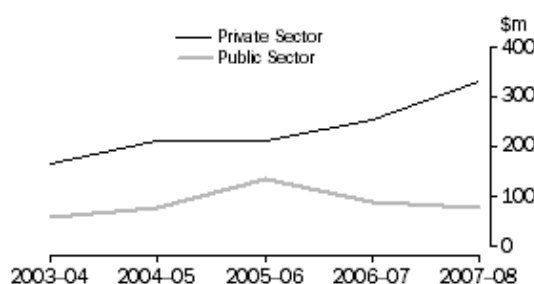
In 2007-08 the total number of new houses approved for construction remained steady at 2,530. The private sector accounted for over 90% of the value of all building work done in 2007-08. Just under half of this was from the building of new houses. Less than two percent of the total value of public sector building was invested in new homes.

VALUE OF RESIDENTIAL BUILDING WORK DONE, Tasmania



Source: Building Activity, Australia (cat. no. 8752.0)

VALUE OF NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDING WORK DONE, Tasmania



Source: Building Activity, Australia (cat. no. 8752.0)

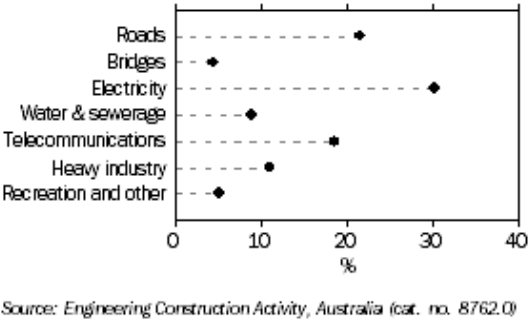
ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION

The total value of engineering construction work done in Tasmania in 2007-08 was \$837 million,

a decrease of 6% from 2006-07. In 2007-08, 54% of all engineering construction work was carried out by the private sector (\$448 million). Electricity generation, transmission and pipeline represented 30% of the total value of engineering construction work (24% of the private sector and 38% of the public sector) followed by roads, highways and subdivisions 22% (8% of the private sector and 37% of the public sector) and telecommunications 19% (34% of the private sector and 1% of the public sector).

VALUE OF ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION WORK DONE, Tasmania

VALUE OF ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION WORK DONE, Tasmania, percentage by type



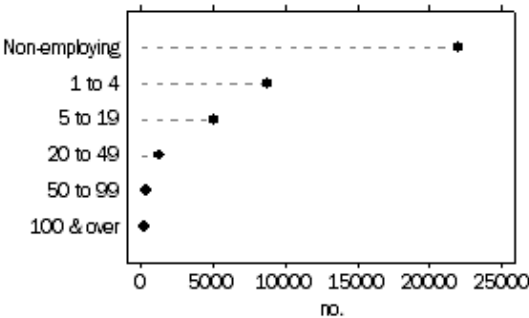
RATEABLE LAND USE

As at November 2008, the total rateable land area in Tasmania was 4.2 million hectares. Primary production accounted for 88% of this land (3.7 million ha), 5% was residential (0.2 million ha) and 3% sporting facilities/recreation (0.1 million ha). (Source: Information and Land Services, DPIW).

BUSINESS COUNTS

IN 2006-07 there were 37,131 businesses operating at the start of the financial year, and 37,787 at the end of the financial year. The entry rate for business was 15% and the exit rate was 13%.

NUMBER OF BUSINESSES by number of employees, Tasmania, June 2007



SOURCES

- Agriculture (ABS data available on request)
- Building Activity, Australia (ABS cat. no. 8752.0)
- Building Approvals, Australia (ABS cat. no. 8731.0)

Counts of Australian Businesses, including entries and exits June 2003 - June 2006 (ABS cat. no. 8165.0)

Engineering Construction Activity, Australia (ABS cat. no. 8762.0)

Manufacturing Industry, Australia (ABS cat. no. 8221.0)

Mining Operations, Australia (ABS cat. no. 8415.0)

Retail Trade, Australia (ABS cat. no. 8501.0)

Tourist Accommodation, Australia (ABS cat. no. 8635.0)

Population



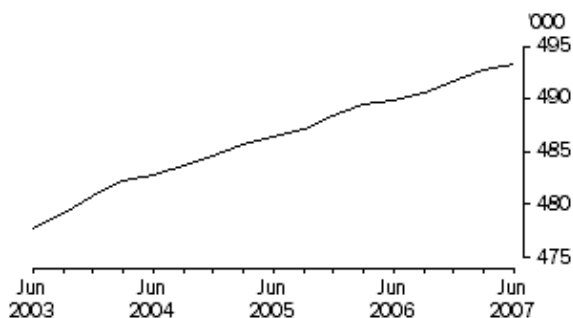
POPULATION

POPULATION CHANGE (a)

In the year to June 2007, Tasmania's population grew by 3,400 to a total of 493,300 people. This growth must be considered in the context of Tasmania's historical pattern of population change and the nature of Tasmania's components of population change. The components of population change are natural increase, interstate migration and overseas migration. In Tasmania, natural increase is the main source of population growth, while net interstate migration is usually the main source of population loss.

After experiencing population decline between 1996 and 2000 due to large interstate migration losses, Tasmania did not exceed its 1996 population until June 2003. The net growth experienced between June 2002 and 2004, seen in the graph below, was due to higher than average levels of net interstate migration. Between June 2005 and 2007, net interstate migration returned to its longer term trend of net loss; however, Tasmania did not return to population decline. This was due to larger than average gains from net overseas migration and natural increase over that period.

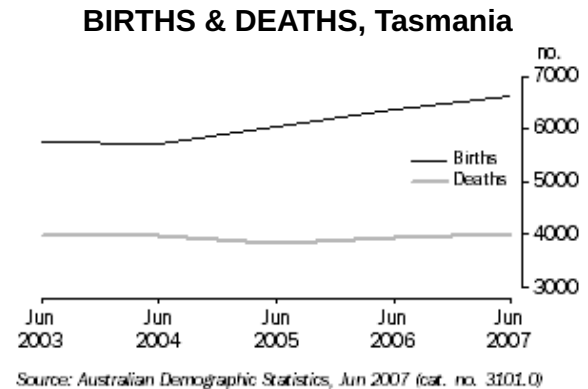
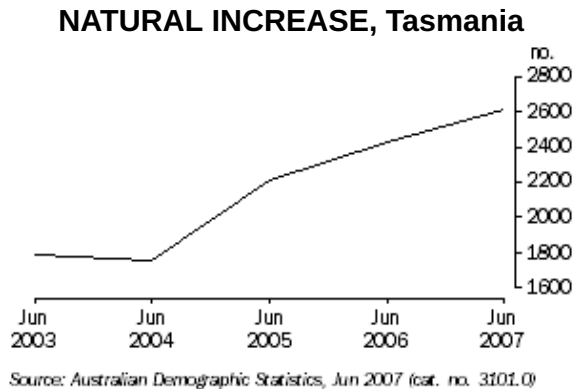
TOTAL POPULATION, Tasmania



Source: Australian Demographic Statistics, Jun 2007 (cat. no. 3101.0)

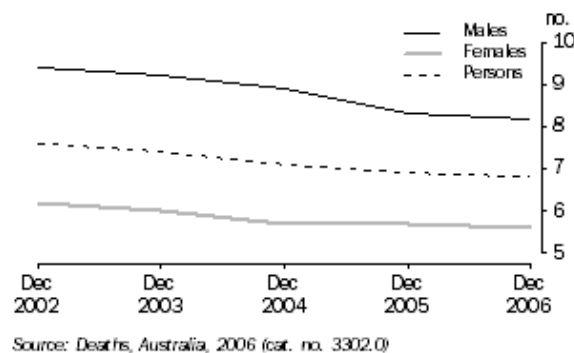
NATURAL INCREASE (a)

Natural increase (the number of births minus the number of deaths) contributed 2,600 people to Tasmania's population growth of 3,400 people in the year to June 2007, and was therefore the main component of population change. The number of births per annum increased markedly from 2004 to 2007, from 5,800 to 6,600. The number of deaths over the 2003 to 2007 period remained relatively steady at around 4,000 deaths per annum.



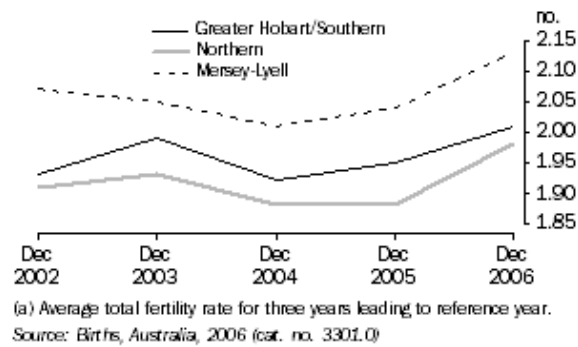
At December 2006, Tasmania's standardised death rate was 6.8 deaths per 1,000 standard population. Even though Tasmania's population is ageing, the falling standardised death rate means Tasmanians are increasingly less likely to die at younger ages.

STANDARDISED DEATH RATE, Tasmania



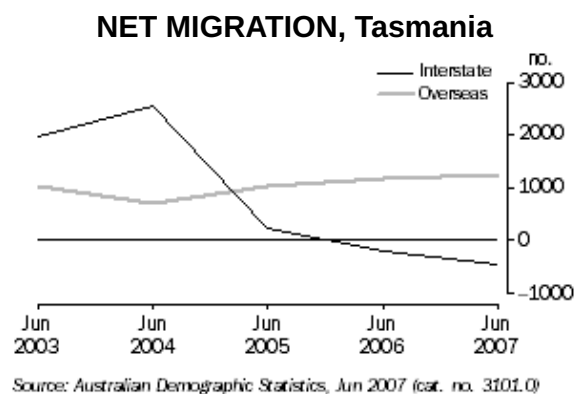
The total fertility rate (the number of babies a woman could expect to bear in her reproductive lifetime) varies by region within Tasmania. Mersey-Lyell Statistical Division (SD) had the highest fertility rate over the 2002 to 2006 period, reaching 2.13 babies per woman at December 2006, while the Northern SD had the lowest fertility rate (1.98).

TOTAL FERTILITY RATE(a), Statistical Divisions



NET MIGRATION (a)

Tasmania experiences a high flow of people to and from the State, with 12,300 people arriving and 12,800 departing in the year to June 2007, leading to a net loss of 450 people. This loss comes after a recent net migration high of 2,600 in the year to June 2004, coinciding with the peak of the housing boom. Tasmania attracts a low proportion of Australia's overseas migrants; however, we consistently receive a net gain. Over the 2005 to 2007 period, Tasmania gained more in net terms from overseas than from interstate migrants, with 1,300 overseas migrants arriving in the year to June 2007.

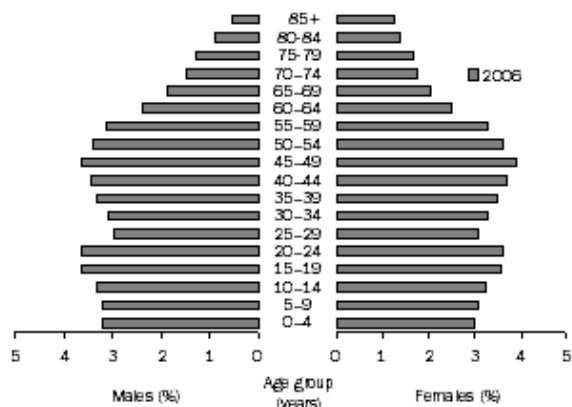


AGE STRUCTURE OF THE POPULATION (a)

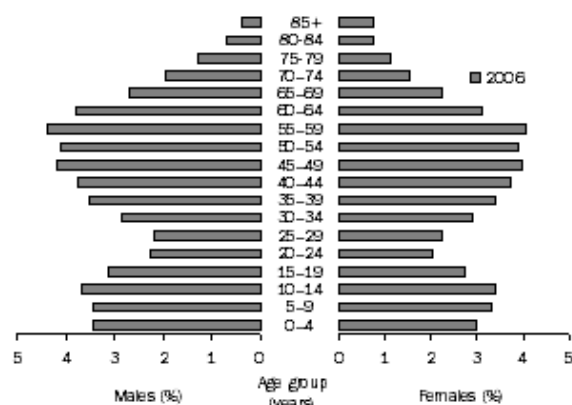
Tasmania's regions have different age structures which affect the current and future needs of the populations (as well as **reflecting** the current needs of the populations). The population pyramids below illustrate that Southern SD and Mersey-Lyell SD have low proportions of 20 to 29 year olds relative to the other age groups, while Greater Hobart SD has a relatively large proportion of 15 to 24 year olds. This affects where resources may be needed and may reflect the availability of tertiary education and employment opportunities.

POPULATION BY AGE GROUP (%),
Greater Hobart

POPULATION BY AGE GROUP (%),
Southern

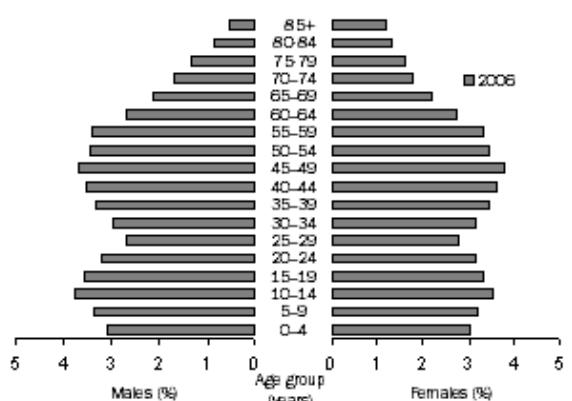


Source: Population by Age and Sex, Australia, 2006 (cat. no. 3235.0)



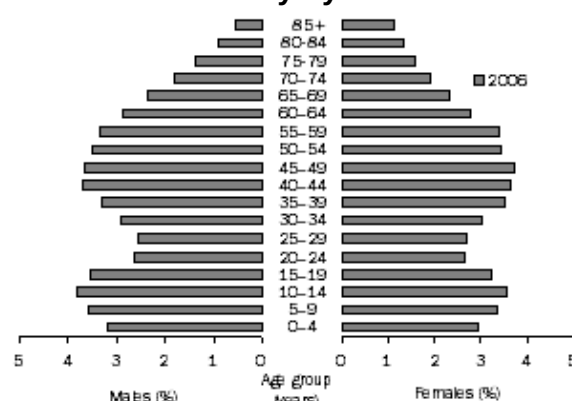
Source: Population by Age and Sex, Australia, 2006 (cat. no. 3235.0)

POPULATION BY AGE GROUP (%), Northern



Source: Population by Age and Sex, Australia, 2006 (cat. no. 3235.0)

POPULATION BY AGE GROUP (%), Mersey-Lyell



Source: Population by Age and Sex, Australia, 2006 (cat. no. 3235.0)

Footnote: (a) Numbers in this section of commentary have been rounded, and will not exactly match those in the related spreadsheets.

SOURCES

Australian Demographic Statistics (ABS cat. no. 3101.0)

Births, Australia (ABS cat. no. 3301.0)

Deaths, Australia (ABS cat. no. 3302.0)

Demographic Estimates and Projections: Concepts, Sources and Methods, 1999 (ABS cat. no. 3228.0)

Family and Community



FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

FAMILY COMPOSITION

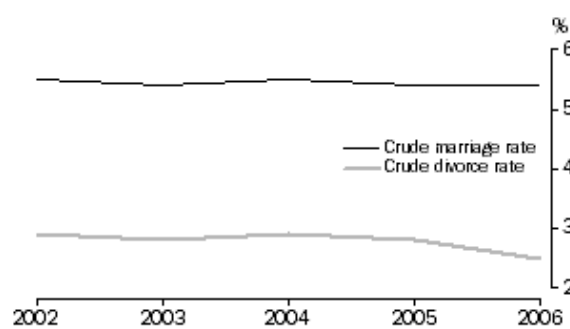
In 2006, there were 128,660 families recorded in Tasmania. Of these, couple families with no children accounted for 40.5%, couple families with children represented 41.4% and one parent families made up 16.7%. Most families with children, regardless of being couple families or one parent families, had children aged under 15 years.

MARRIAGES AND DIVORCES

The number of registered marriages in Tasmania has remained relatively steady over the last five years, with the crude marriage rate varying little. Median age at marriage increased slightly from 31.6 years for males in 2002 to 32.7 years in 2006 and 29.1 years for females in 2002 to 29.9 years in 2006. Marriages involving cohabitation prior to marriage increased from 79.6% in 2002 to 82.1% in 2006.

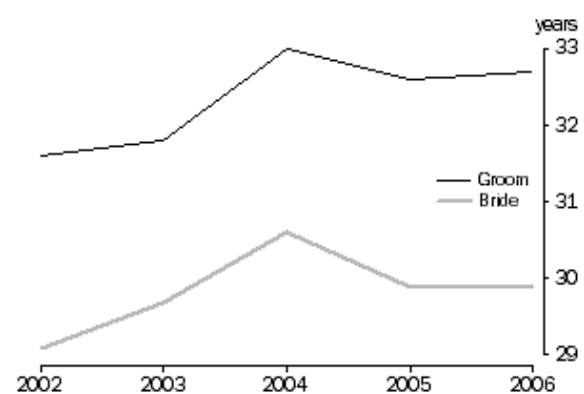
In 2006, over half of all divorces involved children. The crude divorce rate decreased slightly over the last five years, from 2.9% in 2002 to 2.5% in 2006. In 2006, the median duration of marriage prior to divorce was 13.5 years.

CRUDE MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE RATES, Tasmania



Source: Marriages, Australia, 2006 (cat. no. 3306.0.55.001)
Divorces, Australia, 2006 (cat. no. 3307.0.55.001)

MEDIAN AGE AT MARRIAGE, Tasmania



Source: Marriages, Australia, 2006 (cat. no. 3306.0.55.001)

SOCIAL MARITAL STATUS

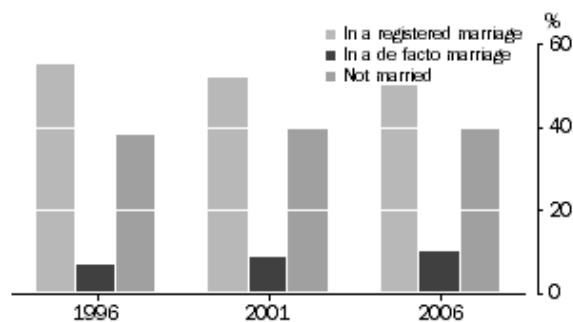
In 2006, 49.9% of all Tasmanians aged 15 years and over were in a registered marriage. This compared to 52.0% in 2001 and 55.2% in 1996.

In 2006, 35,700 persons or 10.4% of all Tasmanians aged 15 years and over were in a de facto marriage, compared to 22,400 in 1996. This represented an increase of 59.0% in persons in de facto marriages over the ten year period 1996-2006.

In 2006, the percentage of persons aged 15 years and over in Tasmania who were not married remained relatively steady, increasing only slightly to 39.6%, from 39.4% in 2001 and 38.0% in 1996.

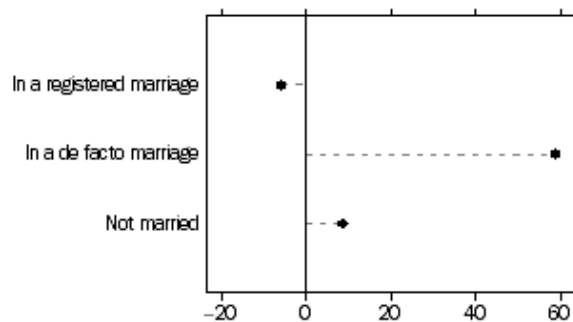
SOCIAL MARITAL STATUS, Tasmania, 1996-2006

SOCIAL MARITAL STATUS, Tasmania, 1996-2006 (percentage change)



Persons aged 15 years and over.

Source: Census of Population and Housing, 2006, Time Series Profile, Table T05



Persons aged 15 years and over.

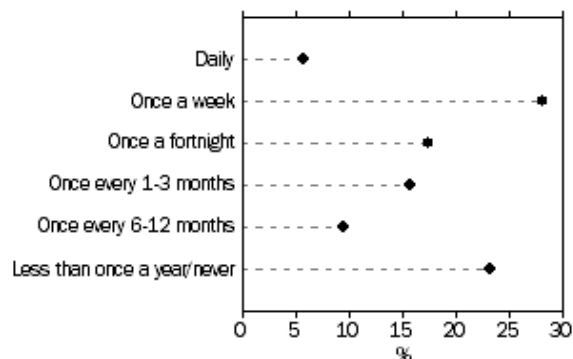
Source: Census of Population and Housing, 2006, Time Series Profile, Table T05

CONTACT ARRANGEMENTS

In 2003, of children aged 0-17 years with a natural parent living elsewhere, 28.2% had face to face contact at least once a week, 17.5% had face to face contact less than once a week but at least once a fortnight, and 15.8% had face to face contact less than once a fortnight but at least once every 1-3 months. Almost a quarter (23.3%) of all children aged 0-17 years with a natural parent living elsewhere had face to face contact less than once a year or never.

Nearly half (49.4%) of all children with a natural parent living elsewhere never stay overnight with the parent living elsewhere.

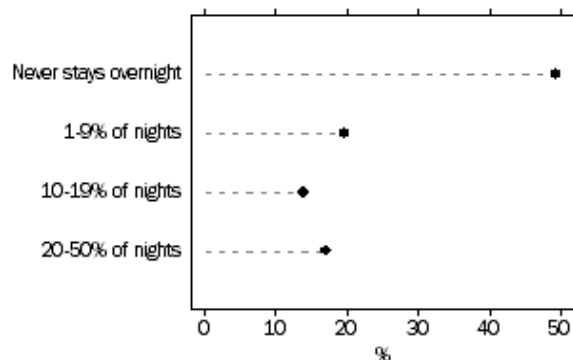
FREQUENCY OF FACE TO FACE CONTACT, Tasmania, 2003



Children aged 0-17 years.

Source: Family Characteristics, 2003 (cat. no. 4442.0)

PROPORTION OF NIGHTS WITH NATURAL PARENT LIVING ELSEWHERE, Tasmania, 2003



Children aged 0-17 years.

Source: Family Characteristics, 2003 (cat. no. 4442.0)

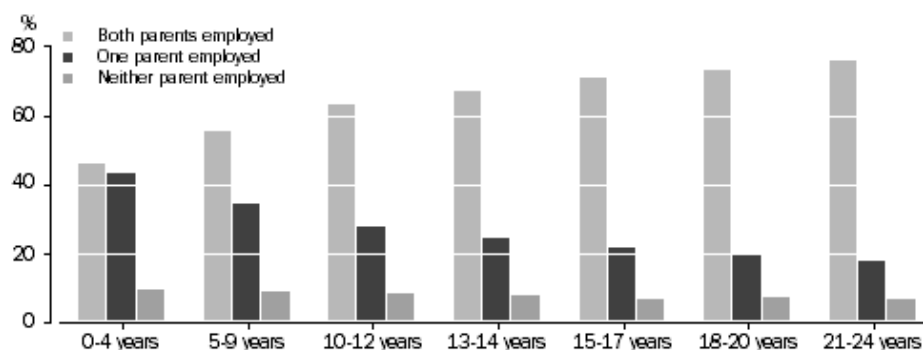
LABOUR FORCE STATUS OF PARENTS

In 2006, more than half (58.4%) of all dependent children in couple families had both parents employed. The likelihood of both parents being employed increased with the age of the children, from 45.9% of dependent children aged 0-4 years to 75.6% of dependent children aged 21-24 years. At the same time, 32.1% of dependent children in couple families had one parent employed. The likelihood of dependent children in couple families having one parent employed decreased with the age of the children, from 43.2% of dependent children aged 0-4 years to 17.4% of dependent children aged 21-24 years.

Of one parent families with dependent children, 49.9% of children had an employed parent. The likelihood of the parent being employed increased with the age of the children, from 27.4% of dependent children aged 0-4 years to 70.7% of dependent children aged 21-24 years.

Of children living in couple families with children, only 8.3% had neither parent employed, compared to 48.3% of children in one parent families. The likelihood of neither parent in a couple family with children being employed varied little with the age of the children, decreasing only slightly from 9.5% of dependent children aged 0-4 years to 6.6% of dependent children aged 21-24 years. However, the likelihood of the parent in a one parent family with dependent children not being employed decreased markedly with the age of the children, from 70.3% for dependent children aged 0-4 years to 29.3% of dependent children aged 21-24 years.

LABOUR FORCE STATUS OF PARENTS, Children in couple families, by age, Tasmania, 2006



Source: Census of Population and Housing, 2006,
Expanded Community Profile, table X33, X34

LABOUR FORCE STATUS OF PARENTS, Children in one parent families, by age, Tasmania, 2006



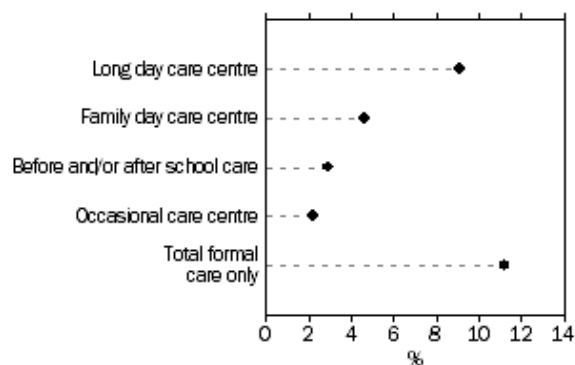
Source: Census of Population and Housing, 2006,
Expanded Community Profile, table X33, X34

CHILD CARE

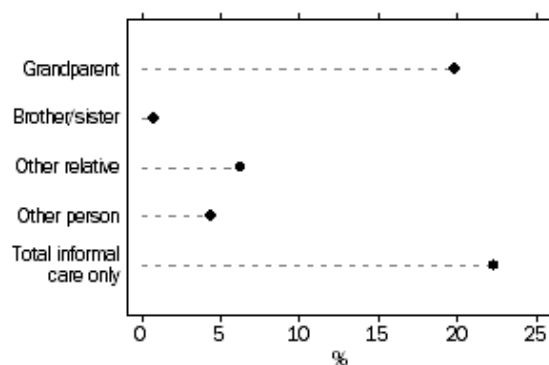
In 2005, 40.6% of children aged 0-12 years used child care. Of these, 11.2% used formal care only, 22.3% used informal care only and 7.1% used both formal and informal care. Long day care centre was the most commonly used form of formal child care (9.1%) followed by family day care centre (4.6%) and before and/or after school care (2.9%). Grandparents provided a significant proportion of informal child care (19.8%).

FORMAL CHILD CARE, Tasmania, 2005

INFORMAL CHILD CARE, Tasmania, 2005



Children aged 0-12 years.
Source: Child Care, Australia, 2005 (cat. no. 4402.0)



Children aged 0-12 years.
Source: Child Care, Australia, 2005 (cat. no. 4402.0)

CHILDREN'S PARTICIPATION IN CULTURAL AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES

In 2006, almost one third (32.2%) of Tasmanian children aged 5-14 years participated in cultural activities. Females were more likely to participate in cultural activities (46.9%) compared to males (18.4%). This included playing a musical instrument (females 21.6% compared to males 14.8%), dancing (females 24.1% compared to males 1.2%) and singing (females 12.2% compared to males 3.0%). Females were also more likely to visit a public library or attend a performing arts event.

More than half (59.2%) of all children aged 5-14 years participated in sport. Of these, males accounted for 60.2% of participants and females 58.4%. Soccer (outdoor) was the highest participation sport amongst Tasmanian children aged 5-14 years (17.5%), attracting 23.7% males and 10.9% females. This was followed by swimming (14.6%) which attracted 11.3% males and 18.4% females, and Australian Rules Football (10.0%) which attracted 18.4% males and 0.9% females.

Leisure pursuits were dominated by watching TV, videos or DVDs (95.4%), reading for pleasure (78.8%) and bike riding (72.5%). Most children used a computer (94.1%), with 61.2% having accessed the Internet.

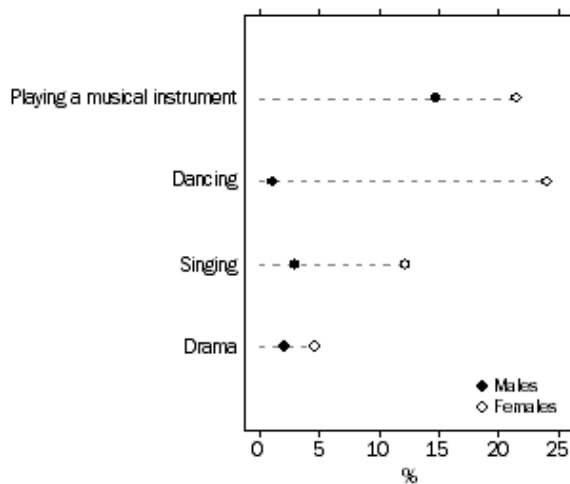
Participation in organised sport increased with age, from 40.9% of children aged 5-8 years to 72.7% of children aged 12-14 years. Use of the Internet also increased with age, from 36.1% of children aged 5-8 years to 83.9% of children aged 12-14 years, as did homework or other study, which increased from 48.4% of children aged 5-8 years to 84.9% of children aged 12-14 years.

Participation in art and craft activities decreased with age, from 70.6% of children aged 5-8 years to 29.3% of children aged 12-14 years. Skateboarding or rollerblading also decreased with age, from 21.0% of children aged 5-8 years to 13.2% of children aged 12-14 years, as did bike riding, which decreased from 79.4% of children aged 5-8 years to 60.0% of children aged 12-14 years. Use of a computer, but not the Internet, decreased from 50.4% of children aged 5-8 years to 13.7% of children aged 12-14 years.

Participation in organised cultural activities, playing electronic or computer games, watching TV, videos or DVDs, and reading for pleasure remained relatively steady as children aged.

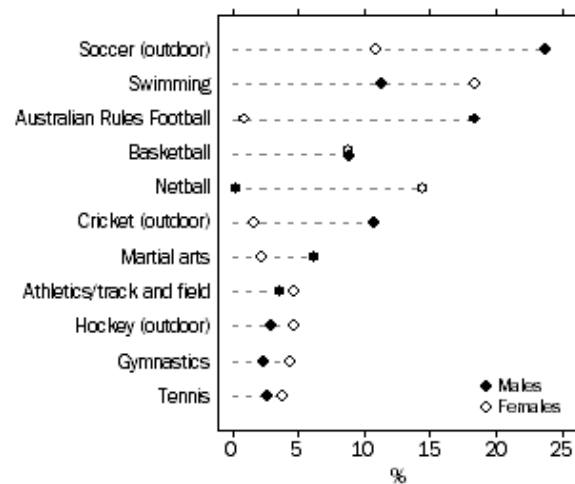
**CHILDREN'S PARTICIPATION IN CULTURAL
ACTIVITIES,
By sex, Tasmania, 2006**

**CHILDREN'S PARTICIPATION IN SPORT,
By sex, Tasmania, 2006**



Children aged 5-14 years.

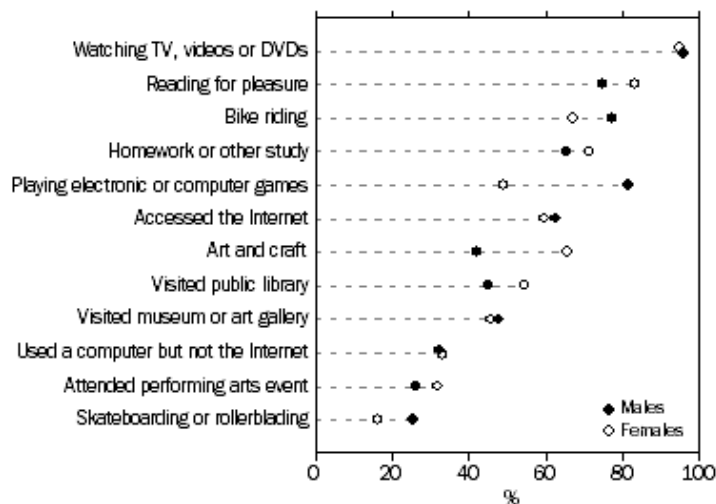
Source: *Children's Participation in Culture and Leisure Activities, Australia, 2006* (cat. no. 4901.0)



Children aged 5-14 years.

Source: *Children's Participation in Culture and Leisure Activities, Australia, 2006* (cat. no. 4901.0)

CHILDREN'S PARTICIPATION IN LEISURE ACTIVITIES, By sex, Tasmania, 2006



Children aged 5-14 years.

Source: *Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities, Australia, 2006* (cat. no. 4901)

SOCIAL INVOLVEMENT

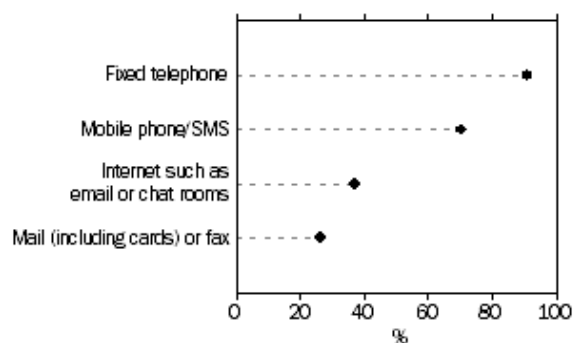
In the week prior to the General Social Survey 2006, 84.0% of all persons in Tasmania aged 18 years and over had face to face contact with family or friends living outside the household. Face to face contact was made by 85.3% of all females and 82.6% of all males aged 18 years and over. Face to face contact decreased with age, from 90.6% of persons aged 18-24 years to 77.4% of persons aged 75 years and over.

Other forms of contact with family and friends living outside the household were measured over a three month period. From March to July 2006, 91.0% of the Tasmanian population aged 18 years and over used a fixed telephone to contact family or friends living outside the household. This was followed by mobile phone/SMS (70.4%), Internet such as email or chat rooms (37.0%), and mail (including cards) or fax (26.4%). Fixed telephone and mail were most commonly used by persons aged 65-74 years. Mobile phone/SMS were most commonly used by persons aged 18-24 years. Internet such as email or chat rooms was most commonly used by persons aged 25-34 years. Females were more likely to use mail, fixed telephone and Internet. Males were more likely to use mobile phone/SMS.

The majority of persons aged 18 years and over attended at least one cultural and leisure venue

or event in the last 12 months (86.9%). The most visited venues or events were cinemas (58.8%), libraries (43.4%), botanic gardens (37.2%) and museums (37.0%). Females were more likely to attend a cultural and leisure venue or event, while males were more likely to attend or participate in a sporting event or recreational physical activity.

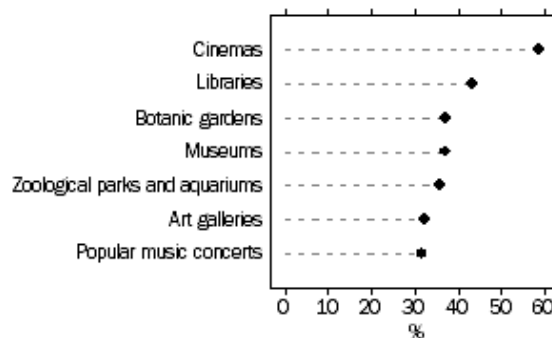
TYPE OF CONTACT WITH FAMILY OR FRIENDS LIVING OUTSIDE THE HOUSEHOLD, Tasmania, 2006



Persons aged 18 years and over.

Source: General Social Survey, Tasmania, 2006
(cat. no. 4159.6.55.001)

MAIN TYPES OF VENUES OR EVENTS ATTENDED, Tasmania, 2006



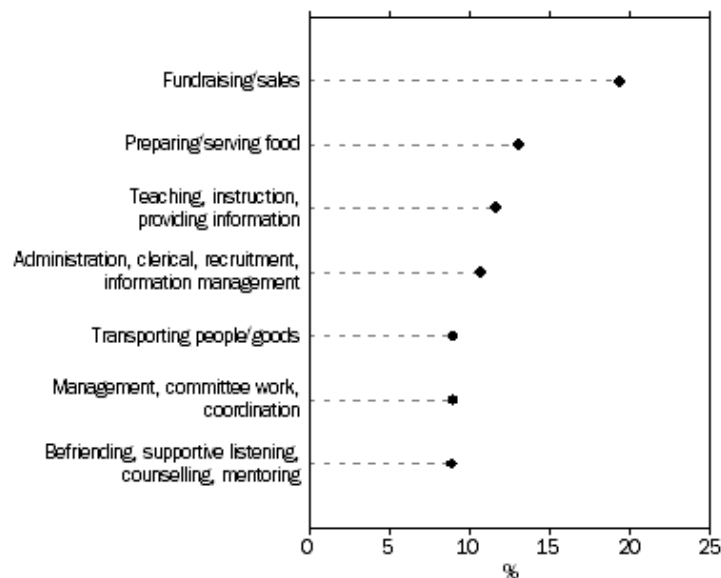
Persons aged 18 years and over.

Source: General Social Survey, Tasmania, 2006
(cat. no. 4159.6.55.001)

VOLUNTARY WORK

According to the General Social Survey 2006, 36.0% of Tasmanians aged 18 years and over undertook voluntary work in the 12 months prior to July 2006. Most volunteers were engaged in fundraising/sales (19.4%) followed by preparing/serving food (13.1%). This trend was reflected in persons aged 25-34 years, 35-44 years, 45-54 years and 55-65 years. Persons aged 18-24 years were primarily engaged in teaching/instruction/providing information (15.0%) followed by fundraising/sales (14.8%). The majority of persons aged 65 years and over were engaged in fundraising/sales (19.6%) followed by administration/clerical/recruitment/information management (12.7%).

TYPE OF VOLUNTARY ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN, Tasmania, 2006



Persons aged 18 years and over.

Source: General Social Survey, Tasmania, 2006 (cat. no. 4159.6.55.001)

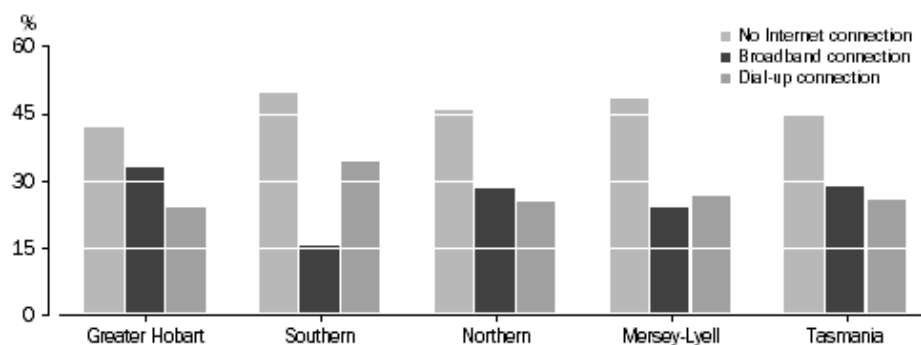
TYPE OF INTERNET CONNECTION

On Census night 2006, more than a quarter of Tasmanian dwellings (excluding not stated) had broadband internet access (28.6%), closely followed by dial-up connection (25.7%). Of all occupied private Tasmanian dwellings, 45.1% had no Internet connection.

Greater Hobart Statistical Division (SD) had the highest proportion of broadband connection (33.2%), compared to dial-up (24.1%). Northern SD reported 28.4% of dwellings with broadband and 25.1% with dial-up. Mersey-Lyell SD reported 24.2% with broadband and 26.7% with dial-up, and Southern SD reported 15.7% with broadband and 34.2% with dial-up.

Southern SD had the highest proportion of dwellings with no Internet connection (49.6%), followed by Mersey-Lyell SD (48.5%) and Northern SD (45.9%). Greater Hobart SD had the lowest (41.9%).

TYPE OF INTERNET CONNECTION, TASMANIAN DWELLINGS(a), By Statistical Division, Tasmania, Census Night 2006



(a) Excluding not stated.

Source: Census of Population and Housing, 2006.
Data available on request.

SOURCES

2006 Census of Population and Housing (ABS Community Profiles)

Australian Historic Population Statistics (ABS cat no. 3105.0.65.001)

Child Care, Australia (ABS cat. no. 4402.0)

Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities, Australia (ABS cat. no. 4901.0)

Divorces, Australia (ABS cat. no. 3307.0.55.001)

Family Characteristics, Australia (ABS cat. no. 4442.0)

General Social Survey, Tasmania (ABS cat. no. 4159.6.55.001)

Marriages, Australia (ABS cat. no. 3306.0.55.001)

Marriages and Divorces, Australia (ABS cat. no. 3310.0)

Further information can also be found on the Family and Community Statistics Theme Page of the ABS website.

Household Economic Resources



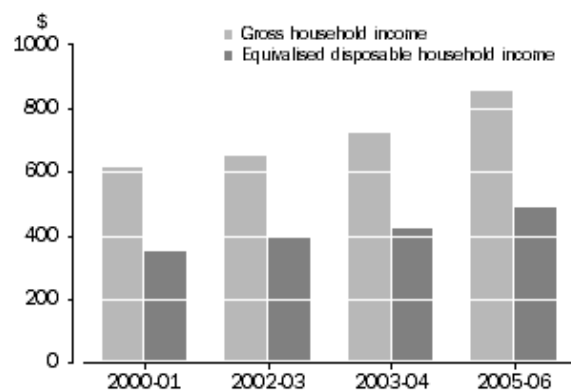
HOUSEHOLD ECONOMIC RESOURCES

GROSS AND EQUIVALISED HOUSEHOLD INCOME

In recent times, Tasmanian households have recorded healthy growth in household income. In 2005-06, the median weekly gross household income in Tasmania was \$850. This was an increase of 18.1% on the 2003-04 estimate of \$720 and 38.9% on the 2000-01 estimate of \$612.

In 2005-06, the Tasmanian median weekly equivalised disposable household income (household income adjusted to facilitate comparison between different sized households) was \$486. This was a 15.7% increase on the 2003-04 estimate of \$420 and a 38.9% increase on the 2000-01 estimate of \$350.

MEDIAN WEEKLY GROSS AND EQUIVALISED DISPOSABLE HOUSEHOLD INCOME, Tasmania

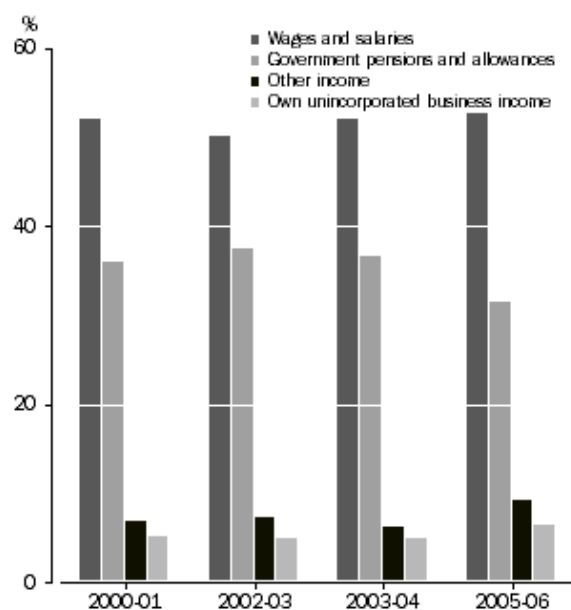


Source: Household Income and Income Distribution, Aust. (cat. no. 6523.0)

PRINCIPAL SOURCE OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME

In 2005-06, wages and salaries were the main source of household income in Tasmania. They contributed 52.8% to total household income, followed by a 31.5% contribution from government pensions and allowances, and a 6.5% contribution from unincorporated business income. Government pensions and allowances recorded a decline in their contribution to total household income, from 36.6% in 2003-04 to 31.5% in 2005-06.

PRINCIPAL SOURCE OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME, Tasmania

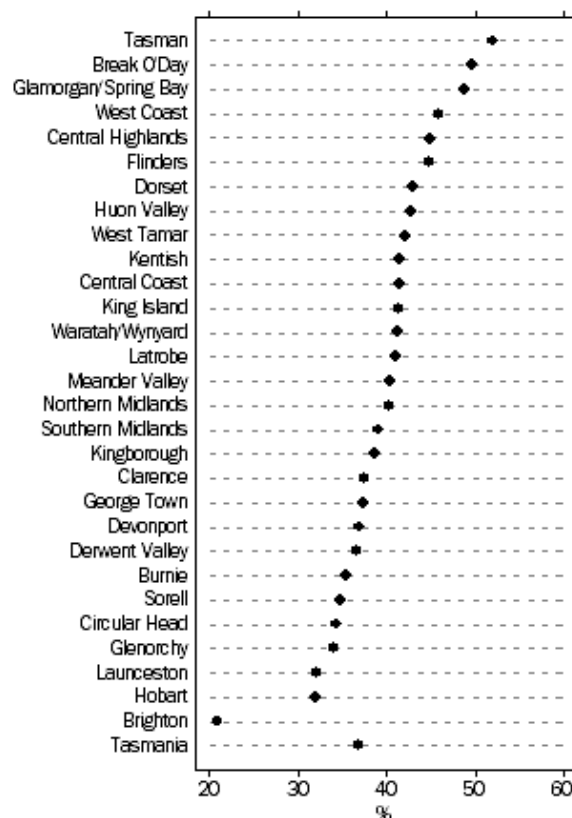


Source: Household Income and Income Distribution, Aust. (cat. no. 6523.0)

HOME OWNERSHIP

On Census night 2006, 36.8% of all occupied private dwellings in Tasmania were fully owned. The local government areas (LGAs) with the highest percentage of home ownership were Tasman (52.1%) followed by Break O'Day (49.6%) and Glamorgan/Spring Bay (48.8%). Brighton was the LGA with the lowest percentage of home ownership (20.8%) followed by Hobart (32.0%) and Launceston (32.1%).

HOME OWNERSHIP, Tasmanian occupied private dwellings by LGA

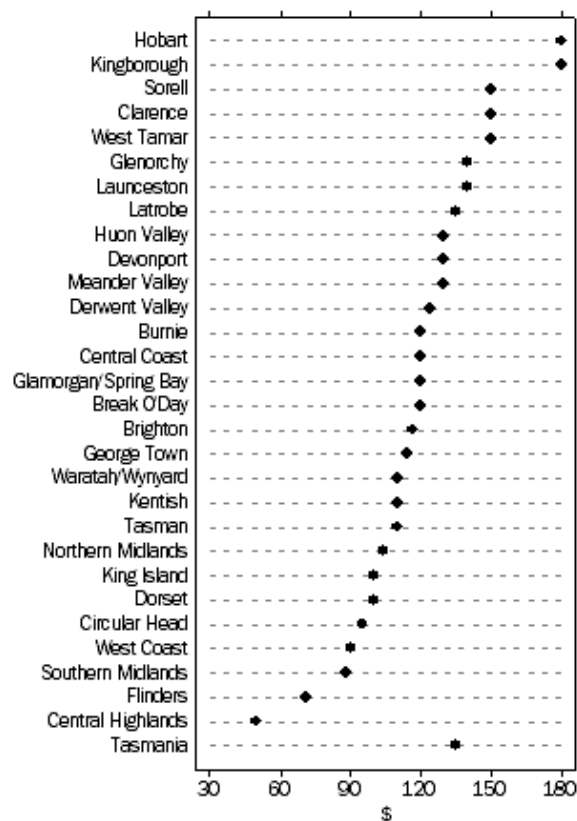


Source: 2006 Census of Population and Housing - Community Profiles

HOUSING RENT PAID

On Census night 2006, the median weekly rent paid for occupied private dwellings in Tasmania was \$135. The most expensive LGAs in which to rent were Hobart and Kingborough, each with a median weekly rent of \$180 followed by West Tamar, Clarence and Sorell with a median weekly rent of \$150. At the same time, Central Highlands LGA was the cheapest place to rent with a median weekly rent of \$50, followed by Flinders (\$71) and Southern Midlands (\$88).

MEDIAN WEEKLY RENT PAID, Tasmanian occupied private dwellings, by LGA

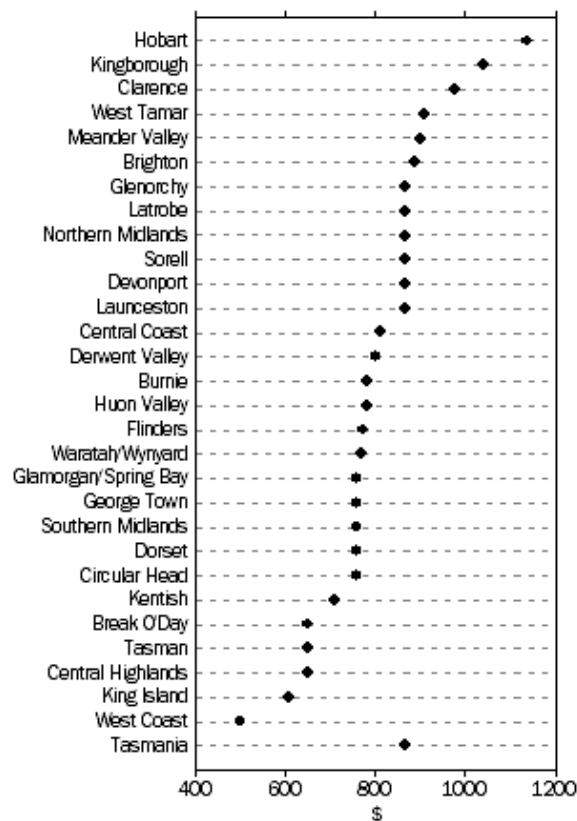


Source: Census of Population and Housing - Community Profiles

HOUSEHOLD HOUSING LOAN REPAYMENT

On Census night 2006, the median monthly home loan repayment for occupied private dwellings in Tasmania was \$867. Hobart residents had the highest median monthly home loan repayment (\$1,138), followed by Kingborough residents (\$1,040) and Clarence residents (\$975). West Coast residents had the lowest median monthly home loan repayment (\$500), followed by King Island residents (\$609), and Break O'Day, Central Highlands and Tasman residents (all with \$650).

MEDIAN MONTHLY HOUSING LOAN REPAYMENT, Tasmanian occupied private dwellings, by LGA



Source: Census of Population and Housing - Community Profiles

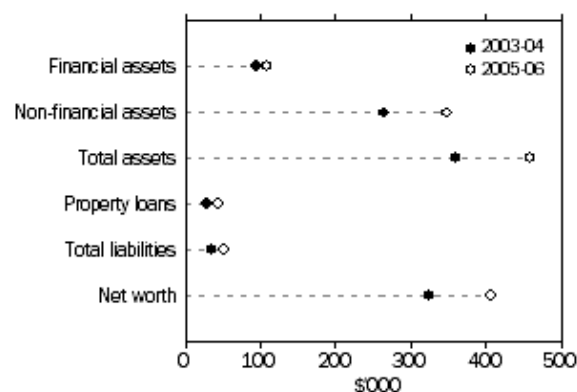
HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE

In 2003-04, food and non-alcoholic beverages accounted for the largest expenditure by Tasmanian households on goods and services, contributing 17.8% of total household expenditure. (Expenditure on these items has declined from 19.3% in 1993-94 and from 18.3% in 1998-99.)

Transport was the second biggest expenditure item in 2003-04, contributing 16.9% of total household expenditure. (Expenditure on this item has increased from 14.9% in 1993-94 and from 16.0% in 1998-99.)

In 2003-04, housing costs contributed 13.0% of total household expenditure. (Expenditure on this item has increased from 11.4% in 1993-94 and from 11.9% in 1998-99.)

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL GOODS AND SERVICES EXPENDITURE, Tasmania

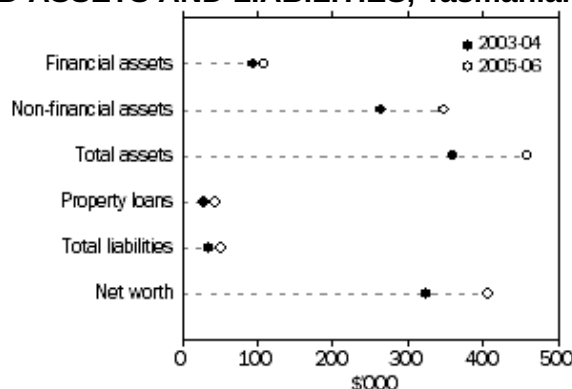


Source: Household Wealth and Wealth Distribution, Aust. (cat. no. 6554.0)

HOUSEHOLD ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

In 2005-06, average (mean) household net worth in Tasmania was \$406,600 compared to \$324,900 in 2003-04. Average household assets in 2005-06 were \$458,500 comprising of \$109,200 in financial assets and \$349,200 in non-financial assets. On the other side of the ledger, average Tasmanian household liabilities in 2005-06 were \$51,800 of which property loans contributed \$44,900.

HOUSEHOLD ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, Tasmanian households



Source: Household Wealth and Wealth Distribution, Aust. (cat. no. 6554.0)

SOURCES

2006 Census of Population and Housing (ABS Community Profiles)

Government Benefits, Taxes and Household Income, Australia (ABS cat. no. 6537.0)

Household Income and Income Distribution, Australia (ABS cat. no. 6523.0)

Household Expenditure Survey, Australia (ABS cat. no. 6530.0)

Household Wealth and Wealth Distribution (ABS cat. no. 6554.0)

Housing Occupancy and Costs, Australia, Detailed Tables (ABS cat. no. 4130.0.55.001)

Further information can also be found on the Personal, Family and Household Finances Theme Page of the ABS website.

Education



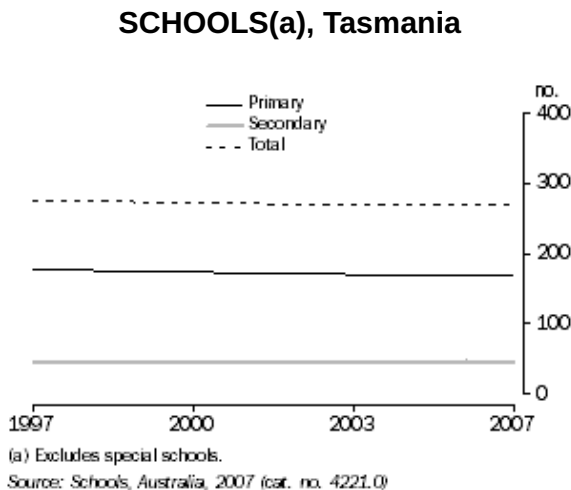
EDUCATION

SCHOOLS

In August 2007, there were 277 schools in Tasmania, of which 210 (75.8%) were government schools and 67 (24.2%) were non-government schools. There were 169 (61.0%) primary only schools, 46 (16.6%) secondary only schools, 56 (20.2%) combined primary/secondary schools

and 6 (2.2%) special schools.

The number of schools in a particular year can be affected by structural change in the composition of schooling rather than necessarily a change in the number of sites delivering full-time school education. That stated, over the ten-year period 1997-2007, the numbers and proportions of primary only and secondary only schools have remained steady. In 1997, there were 178 primary only schools in Tasmania representing 64.3% of all schools (not including special schools). The corresponding data for secondary only schools were 47 schools representing 17.0%.



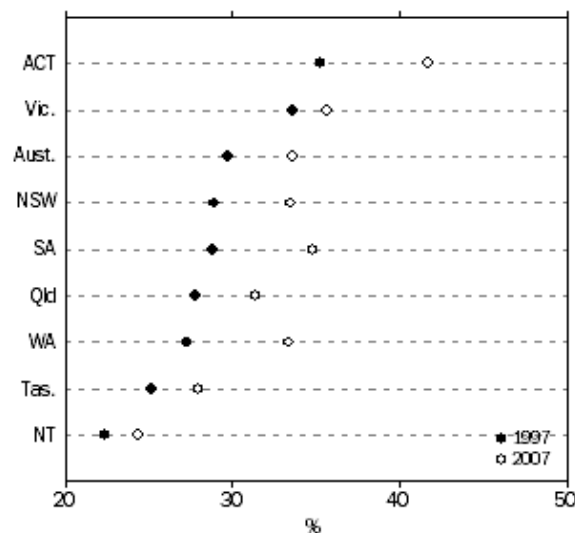
SCHOOL STUDENTS

In August 2007, there were 81,859 full-time school students in Tasmania. From 1997 to 2007, the number of full-time students attending government schools fell by 6.3% (from 62,921 to 58,926), while the number attending non-government schools increased by 8.0% (from 21,236 to 22,933).

In August 2007, 55.0% of all full-time school students in Tasmania were attending primary schools (45,006); 45.0% were attending secondary schools (36,853).

In August 2007, apart from the Northern Territory (NT), Tasmania had the lowest proportion of full-time students attending non-government schools (28.0%). By contrast, the state or territory with the highest proportion was the Australian Capital Territory with 41.7%.

PROPORTION OF NON-GOVERNMENT FULL-TIME STUDENTS



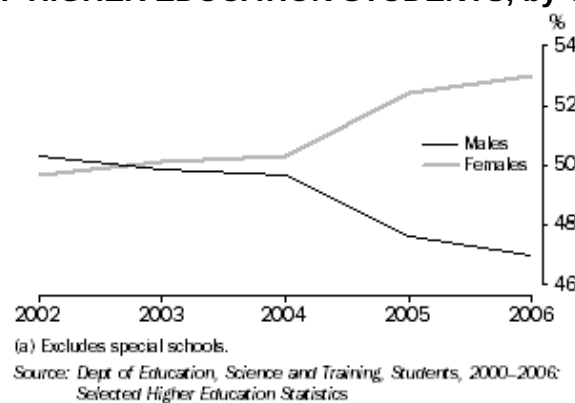
Source: Schools, Australia, 2007 (cat. no. 4221.0)

There were 1,648 part-time school students in Tasmania in August 2007, a significant decrease (42.8%) on the numbers in 1997 (2,883). There were 5,128 indigenous full-time school students, a significant increase (28.7%) on the numbers in 1997 (3,985).

HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENTS

In 2006, there were 18,759 higher education students in Tasmania. Of these, 53.0% were female, 76.2% were undertaking a bachelor degree and 16.1% were undertaking postgraduate study. The most popular field of education study by Tasmanian higher education students in 2006 was 'society and culture' (23.2% of all students) followed by 'management and commerce' (18.2%).

PROPORTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENTS, by Gender, Tasmania



AGE PARTICIPATION RATES

The school age participation rate indicates the proportion of the resident population who are at school. Occasionally, a participation rate can exceed 100%, mainly due to the enrolment of students in schools who are not residents of that state. The age participation rates for full-time Tasmanian school students in August 2007 were 99.6% for 14 year olds, 100.5% for 15 year olds, 84.7% for 16 year olds and 63.3% for 17 year olds.

Tasmania's participation rate for 17 year olds was not the lowest of any state or territory. It exceeded that of Western Australia (40.2%), the NT (44.9%) and Queensland (47.8%).

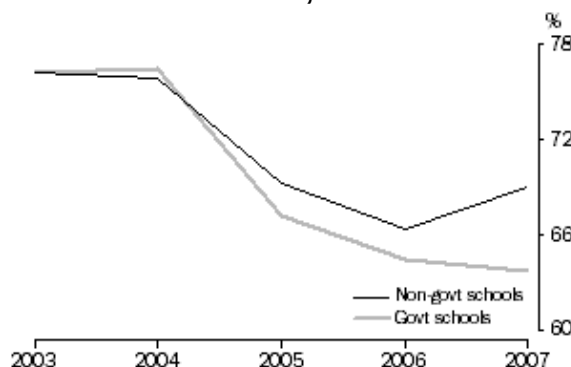
APPARENT RETENTION RATES

The apparent retention rate is the number of school students in a designated level/year of education expressed as a percentage of their respective cohort group. To calculate the apparent retention rate of full-time secondary school students in Tasmania, the total of full-time students in Year 12 in August 2007 is divided by the number of full-time students in the base year, which is Year 7. The resultant figure is converted to a percentage. Care should be taken in interpreting apparent retention rates as the method of calculation does not take into account a range of factors. Please refer to paragraphs 21 and 22 of the explanatory notes in Schools, Australia, 2007 (cat no. 4221.0).

In August 2007, the apparent retention rate of full-time Tasmanian students from Year 7/8 to Year 12 was 65.4%, compared to 58.6% in 1997. The apparent retention rate for females in 2007 was 73.9% and for males 57.4%.

In recent years, apparent retention rates for students in non-government schools have exceeded those for students in government schools. In August 2007, the apparent retention rate of full-time Tasmanian students from Year 10 to Year 12 was 69.0% for those in non-government schools, compared to 63.7% for those in government schools.

APPARENT RETENTION RATES, Year 10 to Year 12, Tasmania



Source: Schools, Australia, 2007 (cat. no. 4221.0)

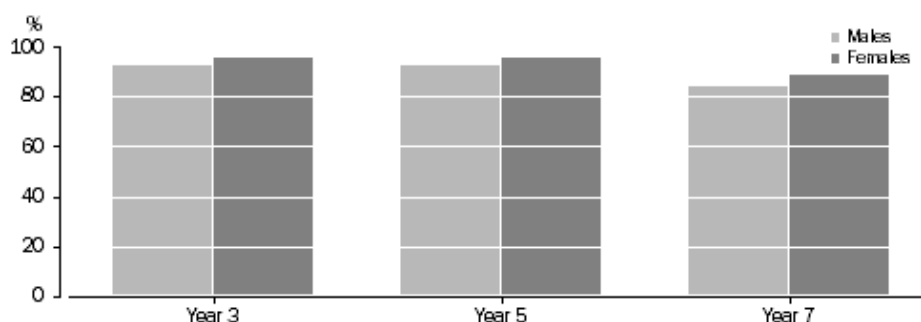
STUDENTS ACHIEVING BENCHMARK

In March 1997, all state, territory and commonwealth education ministers agreed on the national goal: *that every child leaving primary school should be numerate and able to read, write and spell at an appropriate level.* The Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs (MCEETYA) publishes national reports which include the results of testing conducted to identify the achievement of students in each of Years 3, 5 and 7 as measured against national benchmarks for reading, writing and numeracy.

In general, the results for Tasmania for 2006 show that the large majority of Years 3, 5 and 7 students are achieving at the benchmark level or better in reading, writing and numeracy. The highest percentage results for Tasmania were gained by Year 3 and Year 5 students for reading where both cohorts saw 94.1% of students achieving at the benchmark level or better; the lowest percentage result was gained by Year 7 for numeracy (80.4%).

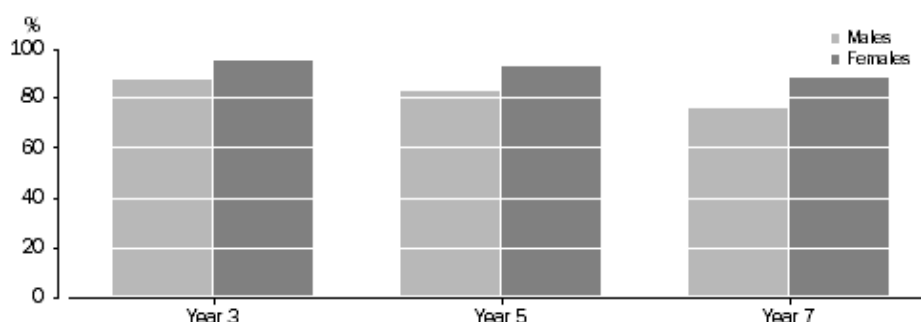
Across all categories and Years except one, Tasmanian female school students achieved better benchmark results than equivalent male school students. The one exception was for Year 7 numeracy where 80.4% of males achieved the benchmark or better compared to 80.3% for females.

PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ACHIEVING BENCHMARK IN READING, Tasmania, 2006



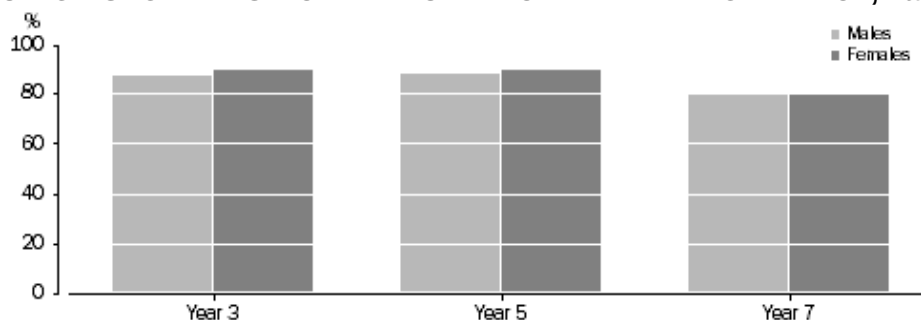
Source: National Report on Schooling in Australia
Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs (MCEETYA)

PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ACHIEVING BENCHMARK IN WRITING, Tasmania, 2006



Source: National Report on Schooling in Australia
Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs (MCEETYA)

PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ACHIEVING BENCHMARK IN NUMERACY, Tasmania, 2006



Source: National Report on Schooling in Australia
Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs (MCEETYA)

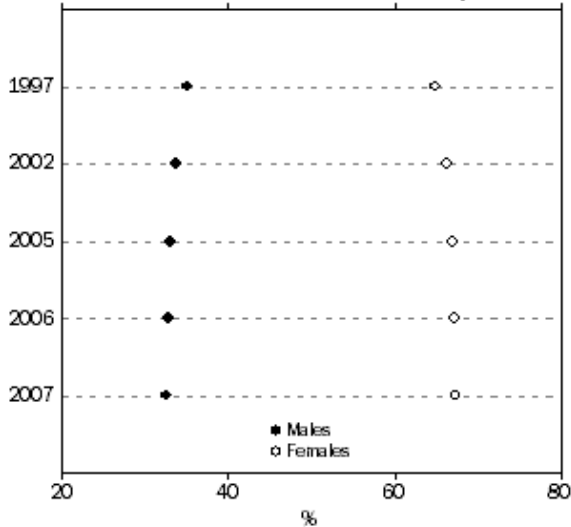
SCHOOL TEACHERS

There were 6,927 teaching staff in Tasmania in August 2007. Of these, 4,850 were female and 2,077 were male.

There were 5,800 full-time equivalent (FTE) teaching staff in Tasmania in August 2007. Of these, 4,148 were at government schools and 1,652 were at non-government schools; 2,959 were at secondary schools and 2,841 were at primary schools; and 3,908 were female and 1,892 were male.

male.

PROPORTION OF FTE TEACHING STAFF, by Gender, Tasmania



Source: Schools, Australia, 2007 (cat. no. 4221.0)

The proportion of Tasmanian FTE female teaching staff has continued to rise, albeit slowly, since 1997. Conversely, the proportion of male staff has fallen. In August 2007, 67.4% of all Tasmanian FTE teachers were female; this compared to 64.9% in 1997. In August 2007, 32.6% of all Tasmanian FTE teachers were male; this compared to 35.1% in 1997.

Tasmanian primary schools have significantly more female teachers than male teachers. In August 2007, 79.5% of all FTE teachers in primary schools were female compared to 55.8% in secondary schools. The comparable figures in 1997 were 78.1% and 52.4% respectively.

Overall, in August 2007, the average number of FTE Tasmanian primary school students per FTE teacher was 15.8. In government primary schools the average was 15.6; in non-government primary schools it was 16.6. The equivalent figures for secondary schools were 12.8 students, with an average of 13.1 in government secondary schools and 12.1 in non-government secondary schools.

SOURCES

Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs (MCEETYA)

Schools, Australia (ABS cat no. 4221.0)

Further information can also be found on the Education and Training Statistics Theme Page of the ABS website.

Housing and Construction

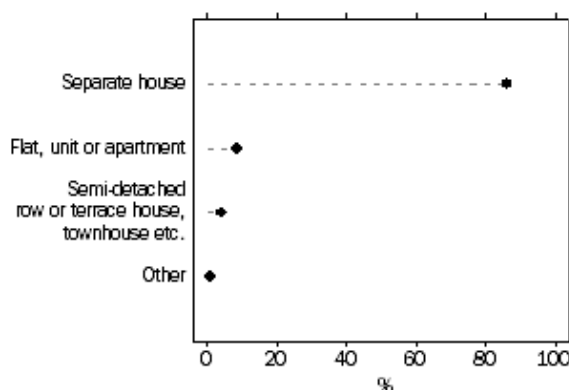


HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION

DWELLING STRUCTURE

According to the 2006 Census of Population and Housing, on 8 August 2006, there were 189,100 occupied private dwellings in Tasmania. Of these, 86.2% were separate houses, 8.6% were flats, units or apartments and 4.2% were semi-detached row or terrace houses, townhouses etc.

DWELLING STRUCTURE, Occupied private dwellings, Tasmania 2006

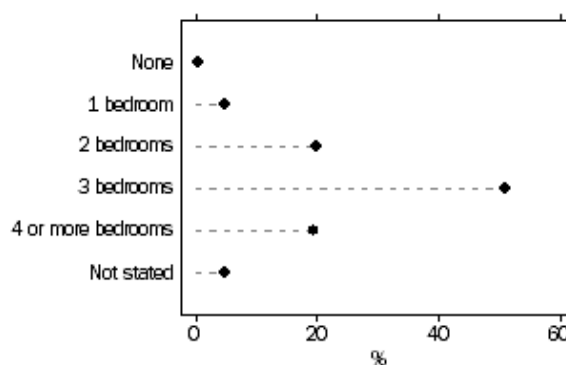


Source: 2006 Census of Population and Housing, Community Profiles

AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE

On Census night 2006, of the total occupied private dwellings in Tasmania, 51.0% had 3 bedrooms, 19.8% had two bedrooms, 19.4% had four or more bedrooms, and 4.7% had one bedroom.

AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE, Occupied private dwellings, Tasmania 2006



Note: 'None' includes bedsitters

Source: 2006 Census of Population and Housing, Community Profiles

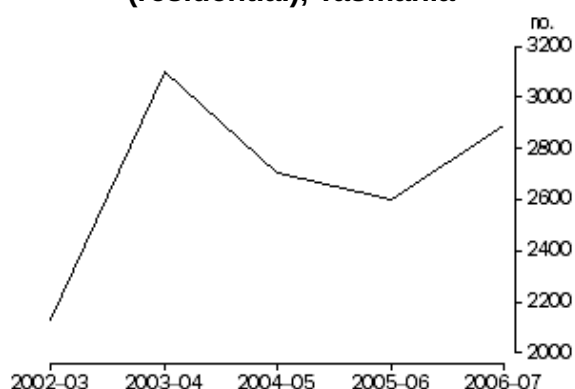
BUILDING APPROVALS

Residential

In 2006-07, there were 2,889 residential buildings approved in Tasmania. After two consecutive years of decline in the number of residential buildings approved, the 2006-07 estimates represented an increase of 11.1% on the 2005-06 estimate of 2,600, but a decline of 6.8% on the estimate of 3,101 in 2003-04.

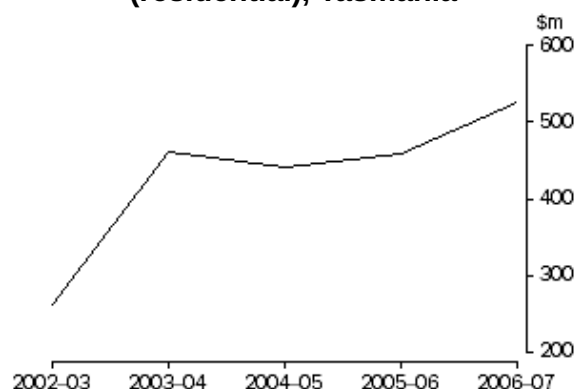
The value of Tasmanian residential buildings approved in 2006-07 stood at \$525.0 million, which was an increase of 14.3% and 100.3% on the 2005-06 and 2002-03 estimates respectively.

**NUMBER OF BUILDING APPROVALS
(residential), Tasmania**



Source: Building Approvals, Australia (cat. no.8731.0)

**VALUE OF BUILDING APPROVALS
(residential), Tasmania**



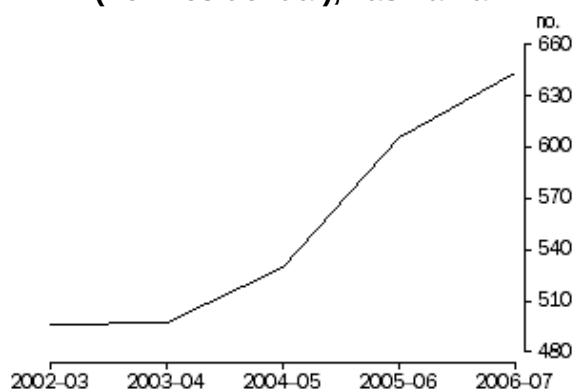
Source: Building Approvals, Australia (cat. no.8731.0)

Non-residential

Non-residential building approvals in Tasmania have shown a constant increase in recent times. In 2006-07, there were 643 non-residential buildings approved. This was an increase of 6.3% on the 605 non-residential buildings approved in 2005-06, and an increase of 29.6% on the 2002-03 estimate of 496.

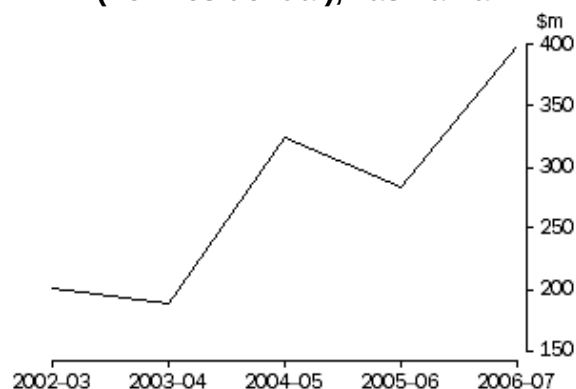
In 2006-07, the total value of non-residential buildings approved was \$398.5 million, a strong increase of 40.7% on the \$283.2 million of non-residential buildings approved in 2005-06 and a 97.8% increase on the 2002-03 estimate of \$201.5 million.

**NUMBER OF BUILDING APPROVALS
(non-residential), Tasmania**



Source: Building Approvals, Australia (cat. no.8731.0)

**VALUE OF BUILDING APPROVALS
(non-residential), Tasmania**



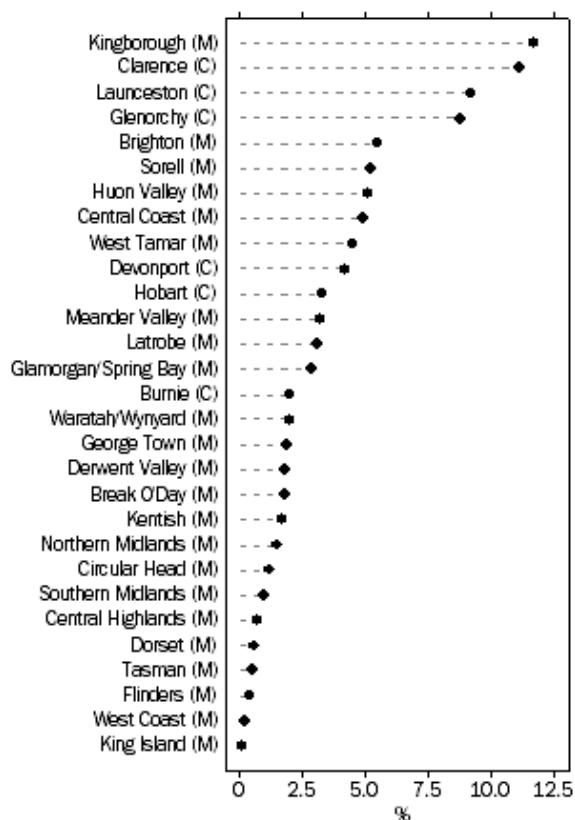
Source: Building Approvals, Australia (cat. no.8731.0)

Building approvals by Local Government Area

In 2006-07, the local government area of Kingborough recorded the fastest growth in terms of new building approvals in Tasmania, with 11.7% of new building approvals, followed by Clarence (11.1%), Launceston (9.2%) and Glenorchy (8.8%).

BUILDING APPROVALS, by local government area,

Tasmania, 2006-07

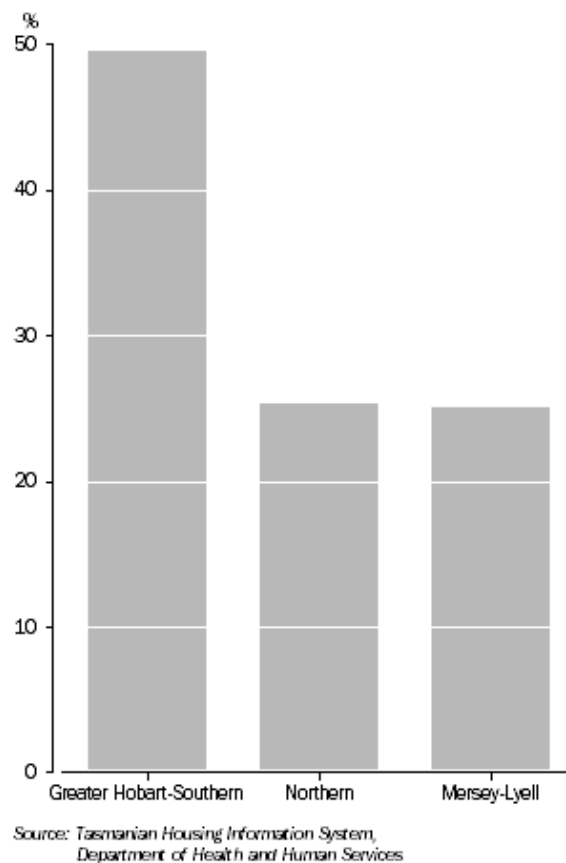


Source: Building Approvals, Australia (cat. no. 8731.0)

PUBLIC HOUSING

At 30 June 2007, there were 11,672 public housing rental properties in Tasmania. Of these, 49.5% were located in the Greater Hobart-Southern Statistical Division (SD), 25.4% in the Northern SD, and 25.1% in the Mersey-Lyell SD.

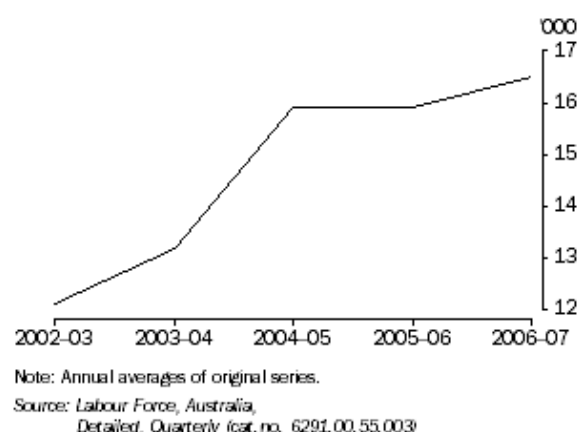
PUBLIC HOUSING RENTAL PROPERTIES (Tasmania, 30 June 2007)



EMPLOYMENT IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

For the last five years the construction industry in Tasmania recorded a steady increase in the number of people employed. In 2006-07, there were 16,500 people working in the construction industry in Tasmania. This represented an increase of 3.8% on 2005-06 and 36.4% on 2002-03. In 2006-07, the Tasmanian construction industry employed 7.4% of the state's total employed persons.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY, Tasmania



SOURCES

2006 Census of Population and Housing (ABS QuickStats)

Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) (ABS cat. no. 1216.0)

Building Approvals, Australia (ABS cat. no. 8731.0)

Department of Primary Industries and Water, Tasmania

Housing Tasmania, Department of Health and Human Services

Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly (ABS cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)

Further information can also be found on the Housing Statistics Theme Page and the Construction Statistics Theme Page of the ABS website.

Transport



TRANSPORT

ROADS

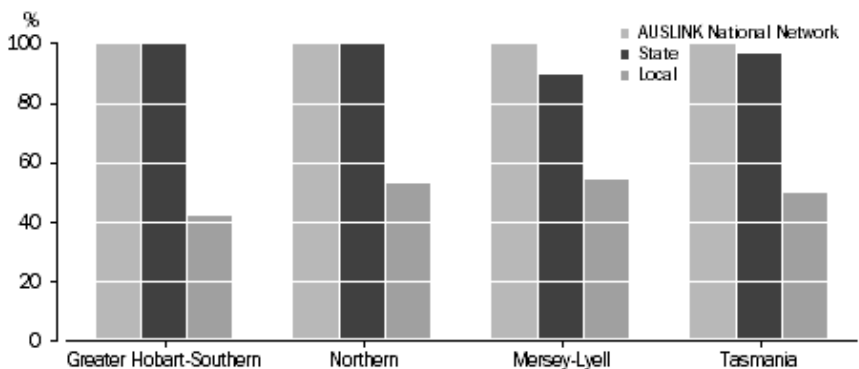
At 30 June 2007, Tasmania had 17,969km of government-owned roads. This included roads owned by national, state and local governments. It excluded private roads, unformed roads and tracks.

The AUSLINK National Network was responsible for 482km of roads, all of which were sealed. Of these, 88km (18.3%) were in Greater Hobart-Southern Region, 257km (53.3%) were in Northern Region, and 137km (28.4%) were in Mersey-Lyell Region.

The state government administered 3,264km of roads in Tasmania, 96.3% of which were sealed. Greater Hobart-Southern Region had 1,297km (39.7%) of these roads, all of which were sealed; Northern Region had 913km (28.0%), 99.3% of which were sealed; and Mersey-Lyell Region had 1,055km (32.3%), 89.2% of which were sealed.

Roads owned by local governments covered 14,173km, less than half (49.3%) of which were sealed. Greater Hobart-Southern Region had 5,226km (36.9%) of these roads, 42.0% of which were sealed; Northern Region had 4,919km (34.7%), 52.9% of which were sealed; and Mersey-Lyell Region had 4,028km (28.4%), 54.2% of which were sealed.

GOVERNMENT-OWNED ROADS, Sealed



Source: Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources (DIER), Asset Information Group
Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPAC), Measuring Council Performance, 2006-07

MOTOR VEHICLES

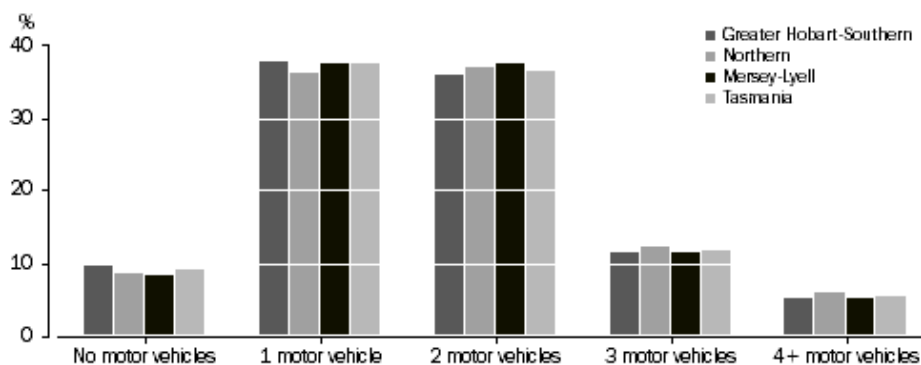
In 2006, there were 378,865 vehicles registered in Tasmania. Of these, 40.7% were manufactured between 1991-2000, 30.6% between 2001-2006, 22.4% between 1981-1990, 4.9% between 1971-1980, and 1.4% before 1970. Passenger vehicles accounted for 72.1% of all registered vehicles in Tasmania, followed by light commercial vehicles (20.0%), motor cycles (2.9%), heavy rigid trucks (2.1%) and campervans (1.0%).

According to the 2006 Census of Population and Housing, 37.4% of occupied private dwellings in Tasmania had one motor vehicle, 36.6% had two motor vehicles, 11.7% had three motor vehicles and 5.4% had four or more motor vehicles. Almost 1 in 10 occupied private dwellings (9.0%) did not have a motor vehicle.

Southern Midlands (11.1%) had the highest proportion of occupied private dwellings with four or more cars, followed by Central Highlands and Kentish (both 9.2%), Meander Valley (8.2%) and Dorset (8.0%).

Glenorchy (14.1%) had the highest proportion of occupied private dwellings with no motor vehicles, followed by Hobart (13.0%), Flinders (12.4%), Launceston (11.8%) and West Coast (11.3%).

MOTOR VEHICLES BY DWELLINGS(a)



(a) Excludes number of vehicles not stated.

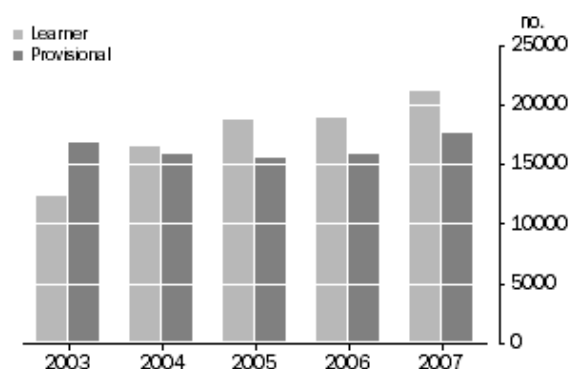
Source: 2006 Census of Population and Housing, Basic Community Profile, Table B29

DRIVERS' LICENCES

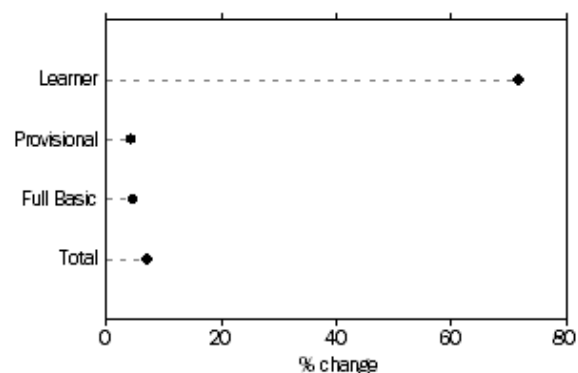
The number of drivers' licences increased steadily, from 328,063 in 2003 to 352,062 in 2007, an increase of 7.3%. The number of full basic drivers' licences increased 4.8%, from 298,894 in 2003 to 313,299 in 2007. There was a dramatic increase (71.9%) in the number of learner drivers' licences, from 12,348 in 2003 to 21,221 in 2007. During the same period, the number of provisional drivers' licences increased 4.3%, from 16,821 in 2003 to 17,542 in 2007.

DRIVERS' LICENCES

DRIVERS' LICENCES, 2003-2007



Source: Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources (DIER),
Transport Statistics, Historical Licence Data, 1987-2007



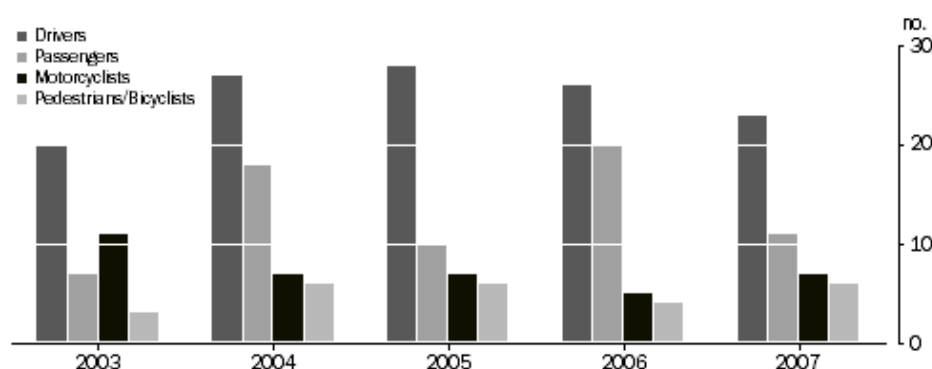
Source: Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources (DIER),
Transport Statistics, Historical Licence Data, 1987-2007

PERSONS KILLED OR INJURED IN ROAD CRASHES

The number of persons killed or injured in road crashes remained relatively unchanged during the 5 year period 2003-2007. Fatalities fluctuated between 41 and 58, while serious injuries decreased from 390 in 2003 to 332 in 2007. Minor injuries increased from 1,452 in 2003 to 1,502 in 2006.

In 2007, more than half of all road crash fatalities were drivers (56.1%), followed by passengers (26.8%), motorcyclists (17.1%) and pedestrians/bicyclists (14.6%).

PERSONS KILLED IN ROAD CRASHES

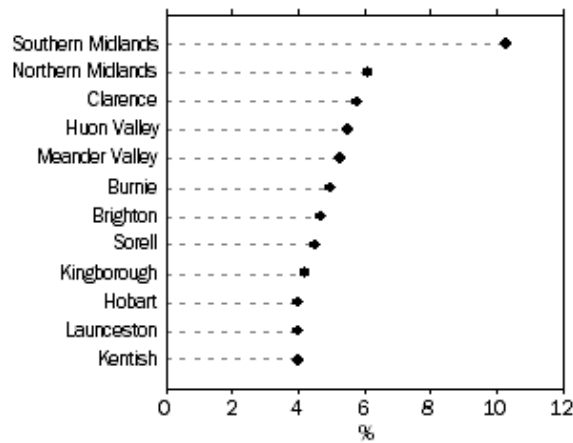


Source: Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources (DIER),
Annual Report, 2007

In 2007, the highest proportion (50.1%) of serious casualties (fatalities and serious injuries) occurred in Greater Hobart-Southern Region, compared with Mersey-Lyell Region (25.1%) and Northern Region (24.8%).

Southern Midlands (10.3%) had the highest proportion of serious casualties, followed by Northern Midlands (6.1%), Clarence (5.8%), Huon Valley (5.5%) and Meander Valley (5.3%).

SERIOUS CASUALTIES, by Top 12 LGAs, 2007



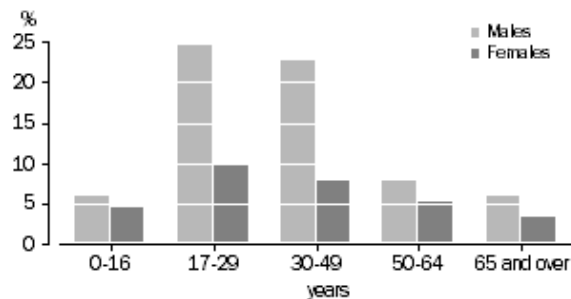
Note: Serious casualties refer to fatalities and serious injuries.
Serious injury means the person was hospitalised for 24 hours or more.

Source: Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources (DIER),
Crash Statistics, 2007

In 2007, 257 (67.8%) serious casualties were male. This was more than double the 122 (32.2%) female serious casualties. Male serious casualties outnumbered females in all age groups. Younger males, aged 17-29 years, were most likely to be a serious casualty (24.8%), followed by males aged 30-49 years (22.7%) and females aged 17-29 years (10.0%).

Over one third (34.8%) of serious casualties were aged 17-29 years, 30.6% were aged 30-49 years, 13.2% were aged 50-64 years, 10.8% were aged under 17 years, and 9.5% were aged 65 years and over.

SERIOUS CASUALTIES, 2007

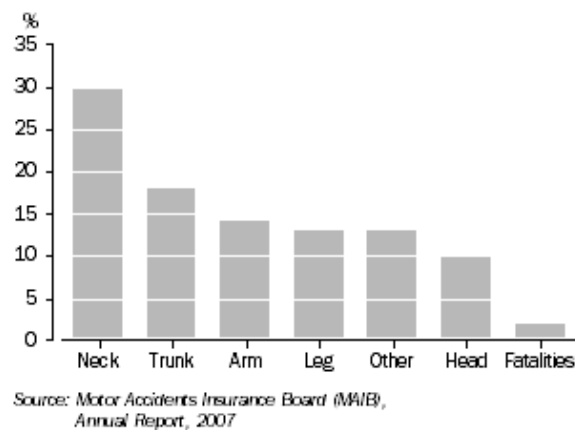


Note: Serious casualties refer to fatalities and serious injuries.
Serious injury means the person was hospitalised for 24 hours or more.

Source: Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources (DIER),
Crash Statistics, 2007

Neck injuries accounted for the highest proportion (30.0%) of injury claims lodged at the Motor Accident Insurance Board (MAIB) in 2006-07, followed by trunk injuries (18.0%) and arm injuries (14.0%). Fatalities accounted for 2.0% of all claims lodged.

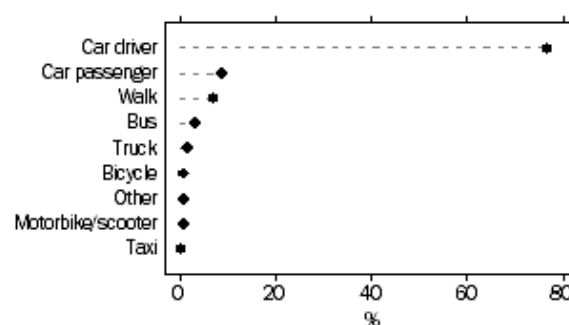
INJURY CLAIMS, 2007



METHOD OF TRAVEL TO WORK

According to the 2006 Census of Population and Housing, most employed persons aged 15 years and over in Tasmania (81.5%) used one method of travel to get to work, less than 1% used two methods of travel to get to work, 4.8% worked at home and 12.7% did not go to work. Of employed persons who used one method of transport to get to work, most (76.6%) travelled by car, as driver, followed by car, as passenger (8.9%) and walking (7.1%).

METHOD OF TRAVEL TO WORK(a)(b)



(a) Employed persons aged 15 years and over.
 (b) Excludes method of travel not stated.
 Source: 2006 Census of Population and Housing;
 Basic Community Profile, Table B45

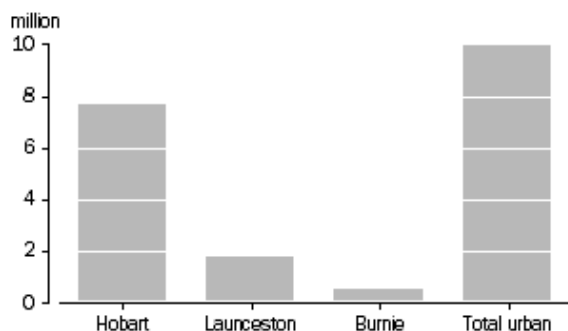
BUS PASSENGER MOVEMENTS

There were 9.9 million Metro bus passenger trips in Tasmania in 2006-07, an increase of 4.2% in passenger trips from the 2002-03 figure of 9.5 million. Of the trips made in 2006-07, some 7.7 million (77.1%) were in Hobart, 1.8 million (17.8%) were in Launceston and 0.5 million (5.1%) were in Burnie.

During the five year period 2002-03 to 2006-07, Hobart experienced a 6.8% increase in bus passenger movements, while Launceston (-2.9%) and Burnie (-6.4%) both experienced a decrease.

BUS PASSENGER MOVEMENTS(a), 2007

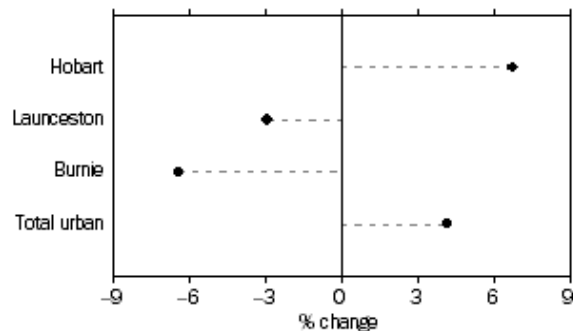
CHANGE IN BUS PASSENGER MOVEMENTS(a), 2002-03 to 2006-07



(a) Includes transfer, charter and contract services.

Note: Hobart means all urban areas within 22km of the Hobart GPO other than Midway Point, Sorell, Richmond, Cambridge, Collinsvale, Kingston, Blackmans Bay, Margate and Snug. Launceston means all urban areas within 12km of the Launceston GPO other than Legana. Burnie means all urban areas in the municipality of Burnie, plus Wynyard and Ulverstone (except that Metro does not operate services within Ulverstone at times when passengers are travelling to/from school).

Source: Metro Tasmania Pty Ltd, Annual Report 2007



(a) Includes transfer, charter and contract services.

Note: Hobart means all urban areas within 22km of the Hobart GPO other than Midway Point, Sorell, Richmond, Cambridge, Collinsvale, Kingston, Blackmans Bay, Margate and Snug. Launceston means all urban areas within 12km of the Launceston GPO other than Legana. Burnie means all urban areas in the municipality of Burnie, plus Wynyard and Ulverstone (except that Metro does not operate services within Ulverstone at times when passengers are travelling to/from school).

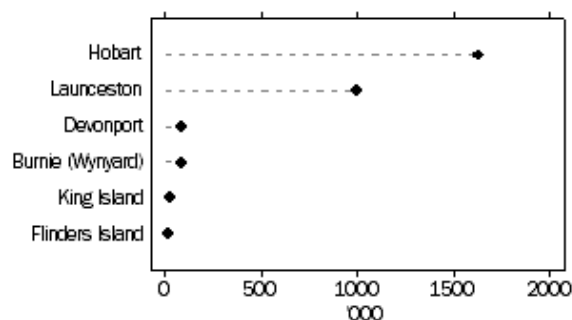
Source: Metro Tasmania Pty Ltd, Annual Report 2007

AIR PASSENGER MOVEMENTS

In 2006-07, most air passenger movement in Tasmania occurred in and out of Hobart airport (1.6 million) and Launceston airport (996,000), compared with Devonport and Burnie (Wynyard) airports (both 88,000), King Island (30,000) and Flinders Island (18,000).

During the 5 year period 2002-03 to 2006-07, most of the main airports in Tasmania experienced a substantial increase in the number of passengers boarding or departing by major domestic and regional airlines. Flinders Island experienced the highest percentage change (157.1%), with an increase in air passenger movements from 7,000 in 2002-03 to 18,000 in 2006-07. For the same period, this was followed by King Island, with an increase from 16,000 to 30,000 (87.5%); Launceston from 574,000 to 996,000 (73.5%); and Hobart from 1.0 million to 1.6 million (61.3%). Devonport (-19.3%) and Burnie (Wynyard) (-1.1%) both experienced decreased air passenger movement during the same period.

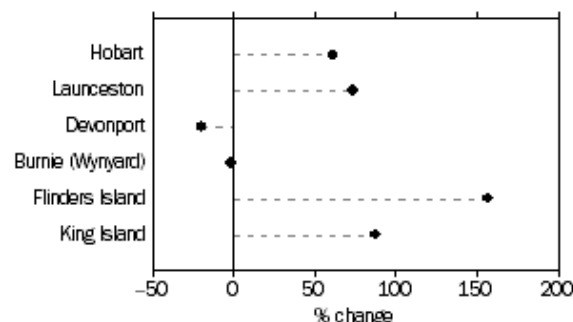
AIR PASSENGER MOVEMENTS(a), Main airports, Tasmania, 2006-07



(a) Scheduled domestic and regional airline services only. Charters are not included.

Source: Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics (BITRE), Airport Traffic Data, 1997-98 to 2006-07

CHANGE IN AIR PASSENGER MOVEMENTS(a), Main airports, Tasmania, 2002-03 to 2006-07



(a) Scheduled domestic and regional services only. Charters are not included.

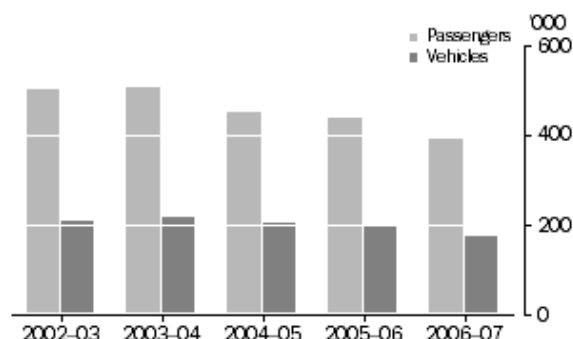
Source: Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics (BITRE), Airport Traffic Data, 1997-98 to 2006-07

BASS STRAIT FERRY MOVEMENTS

In 2006-07, the TT-Line operated 825 voyages across Bass Strait, carrying 393,700 passengers, 177,800 vehicles and 77,700 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) of freight. This was a substantial decrease in the number of voyages, passengers and vehicles from the previous four

years due to the sale of Spirit of Tasmania 'III' in September 2006. This vessel began operating in January 2004 between Devonport and Sydney. Current services of Spirit of Tasmania operate between Devonport and Melbourne.

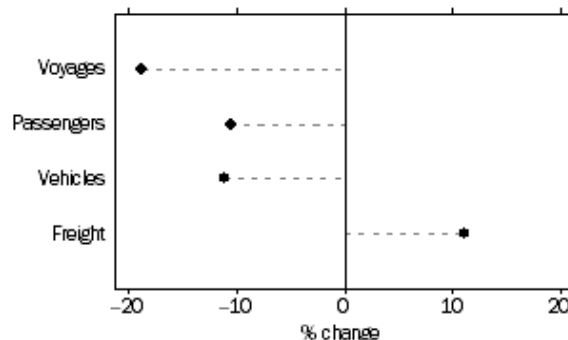
BASS STRAIT FERRY MOVEMENTS



Note: Spirit of Tasmania 'III' operated from January 2004 to September 2006.

Source: TT-Line Annual Reports, 2002-03 to 2006-07

CHANGE IN BASS STRAIT FERRY MOVEMENTS, 2005-06 to 2006-07



Note: Spirit of Tasmania 'III' operated from January 2004 to September 2006.

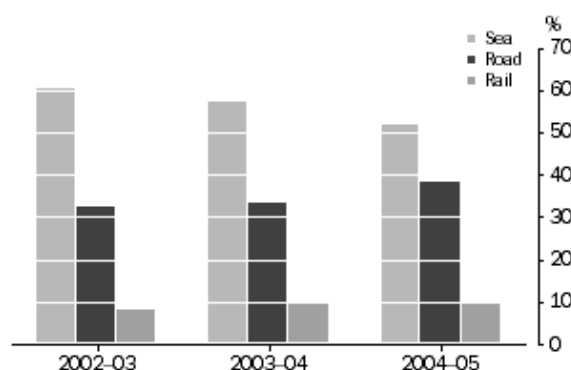
Source: TT-Line Annual Reports, 2002-03 to 2006-07

FREIGHT ACTIVITY

Domestic Freight

In 2004-05, a total of 8.9 billion tonne-kilometres was carried in Tasmania. Most domestic freight was carried by sea (51.7%), followed by road (38.2%) and rail (10.1%). From 2002-03 to 2004-05, the amount of shipped domestic freight decreased by 20.7%, from 60.4% in 2002-03 to 51.7% in 2004-05. The proportion of domestic freight carried by road increased almost 10.0%, from 32.3% to 38.2%. Transportation of domestic freight by rail also increased (12.5%) during the same period, from 8.3% to 10.1%.

DOMESTIC FREIGHT, Tasmania



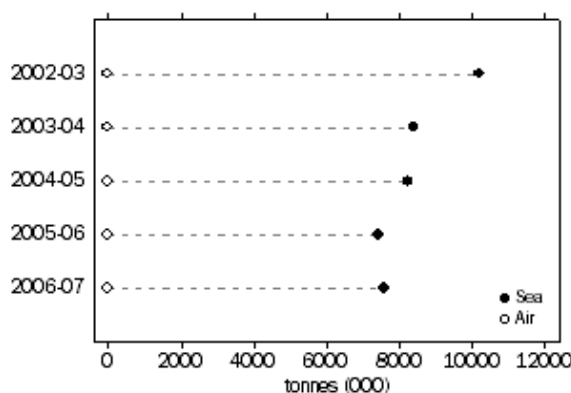
Source: Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics (BITRE), Australian Transport Statistics Yearbook, 2007

International Freight

In 2006-07, most international freight was carried by sea (99.9%), compared with air (0.1%). Woodchips, iron ore and zinc were the leading commodities exported overseas by sea. At the same time lobster, abalone and cherries were the main Tasmanian produce exported overseas by air.

From 2002-03 to 2006-07 the amount of shipped international freight decreased by 25.5%, from 10.2 million tonnes to 7.6 million tonnes. During the same period, international freight by air increased by 18.5%, from 5,600 tonnes to 6,700 tonnes.

INTERNATIONAL FREIGHT, Tasmania



Source: ABS data available on request

SOURCES

2006 Census of Population and Housing (ABS Basic Community Profile, Tables B29 and B45)

Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA)

Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics (BITRE)

Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources (DIER), Tasmania

Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPAC), Tasmania

Department of Treasury and Finance (DOTAF), Tasmania

International Trade Data (ABS data available on request)

Metro Tasmania Pty Ltd

Motor Accidents Insurance Board (MAIB)

Motor Vehicle Census, Australia (ABS cat. no. 9309.0)

Spirit of Tasmania (TT-Line)

Survey of Motor Vehicle Use (ABS cat. no. 9208.0)

Survey of Motor Vehicle Use Data Cubes (ABS cat. no. 9210.0.55.001)

Further information can also be found on the Transport Statistics Theme Page of the ABS website.

Crime and Justice



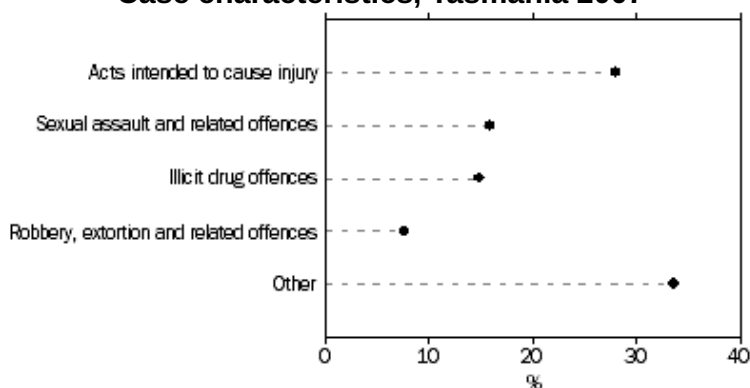
CRIME AND JUSTICE

HIGHER COURTS DEFENDANTS

The following information relates to defendants who were adjudicated, i.e. finalised via a plea of guilty or a decision by a judge as to their guilt or innocence of the final charges laid.

In 2007 in Tasmania, there were 446 defendants adjudicated by higher courts, an increase of 2.1% on the 437 defendants in 2006. 'Acts intended to cause injury' represented 28.0% of total cases, followed by 'sexual assaults and related offences' (15.9%) and 'illicit drug offences' (14.8%).

Case characteristics, Tasmania 2007

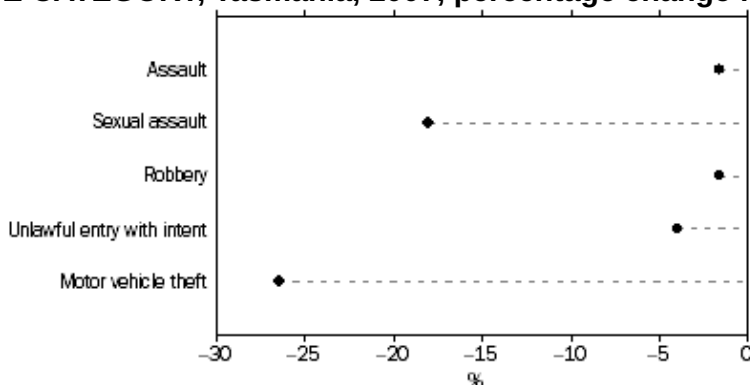


Source: Criminal Courts, Australia (cat. no. 4513.0)

OFFENCE CATEGORIES

In 2007 in Tasmania, most offence categories recorded a decline. The decreases were: motor vehicle theft by 26.4%, sexual assaults by 18.0%, unlawful entry with intent by 4.0%, assaults by 1.6%, and robbery, also by 1.6%. There were 6 cases of murder and 7 cases of attempted murder in 2007 compared to 4 and 6 respectively in 2006. Because the number of murders is usually so small, it is not meaningful to make year to year comparisons, and the data is not included in the graph below.

OFFENCE CATEGORY, Tasmania, 2007, percentage change from 2006

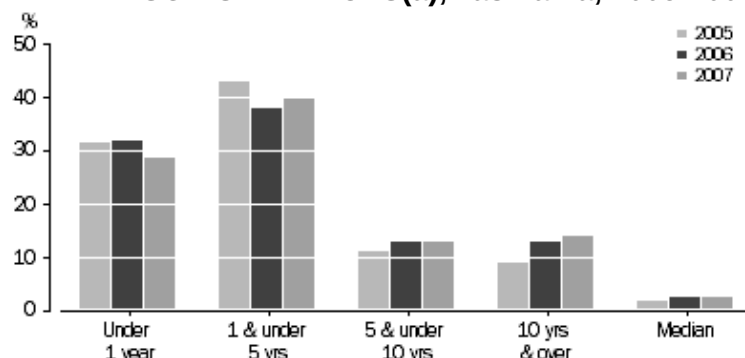


Source: Recorded Crime - Victims, Australia (cat. no. 4510.0)

PRISON SENTENCING CHARACTERISTICS

In 2007, there were 402 prisoners sentenced into detention in Tasmania, an increase of 4.4% on the 385 sentenced in 2006. Of the total sentenced, 40.0% were sentenced to one to five years detention, 28.6% to under one year and 13.7% to ten years and over. The median period of detention was 2.5 years compared to 2.3 years in 2006.

NEW PRISON SENTENCES(a), Tasmania, 2005-2007



(a) Excludes periodic detention and indeterminate sentences.

Source: Prisoners in Australia (cat. no. 4517.0)

PRISONERS

In 2007 in Tasmania, the number of prisoners increased by 3.1% to 528 from 512 in 2006. Of all prisoners, females represented 6.1%, and indigenous persons 12.7%. There were 63.4% prisoners who had a prior imprisonment record and 23.9% of all prisoners were remandees.

PRISONER CHARACTERISTICS

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
All prisoners (no.)	453	447	551	512	528
Mean age (years)	33.5	34.0	34.6	34.9	35.0
Females (%)	5.3	4.9	5.1	7.4	6.1
Indigenous (%)	11.7	13.2	12.7	10.4	12.7
Known prior imprisonment (%)	58.7	67.8	65.3	66.8	63.4
Remandees (%)	21.6	15.2	23.8	24.8	23.9

Source: Prisoners in Australia (cat.no. 4517.0)

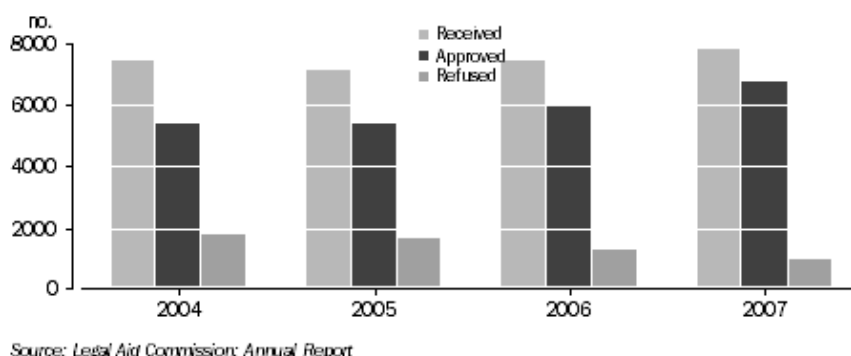
LEGAL AID

The Legal Aid Commission provides legal services to the Tasmanian community through grants of legal aid, free legal advice and minor assistance, duty solicitor services, and community education and information.

In 2007, there were 7,848 applications for legal assistance in Tasmania, an increase of 4.9% on 7,478 requests in 2006. The majority of these 2007 applications (72.0%) were for criminal matters.

The Legal Aid Commission in 2007 approved 6,759 applications, an increase of 12.5% on approved cases in 2006. At the same time, 1,001 cases were refused, representing a decrease of 23.6% from 2006.

APPLICATIONS FOR LEGAL ASSISTANCE, Tasmania, 2004-2007



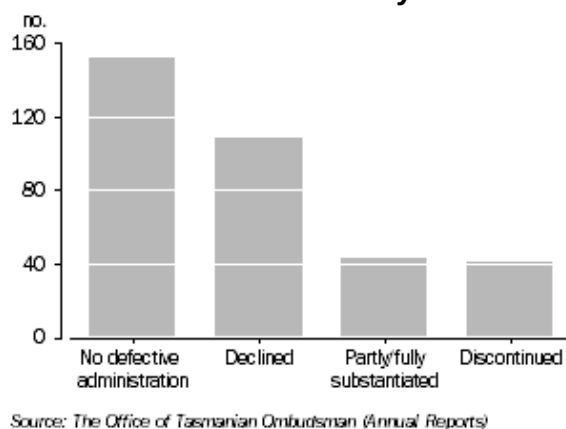
TASMANIAN OMBUDSMAN

The Ombudsman's role is to investigate and help to resolve complaints about the administrative actions of government departments, councils and public authorities.

In 2006-07, the Tasmanian ombudsman received 63 complaints against local governments, a significant decrease on the 166 complaints in 2005-06. Most of the complaints were against local governments in Greater Hobart-Southern region (31), followed by Northern (18) and Mersey-Lyell (14). There were 227 complaints against the Tasmanian state government in 2006-07 compared to 253 in 2005-06.

In 2006-07, the Tasmanian ombudsman closed 344 cases. Of these, 152 were included in the category of 'no defective administration' (cases resolved at either the preliminary inquiry stage or which proceed through to an investigation). The next biggest category of cases (108) was 'declined' (complaints that do not meet the threshold required for acceptance by the Ombudsman). There were 43 cases which were 'partly/fully substantiated' (complaints where the Ombudsman considers that the administrative action of the public authority are not appropriate or reasonable) and 41 cases were 'discontinued' (cases that do not progress because the complainant does not provide additional information to identify the issue or complaint adequately).

CLOSED COMPLAINTS TO OMBUDSMAN by reason for closure, 2006-07



SOURCES

Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) (ABS cat. no. 1216.0)

Corrective Services, Australia (ABS cat. no. 4512.0)

Criminal Courts, Australia (ABS cat. no. 4513.0)

Legal Aid Commission of Tasmania Annual Reports 2004 to 2007

Ombudsman Tasmania Ombudsman Annual Report 2002-2003 to 2006-2007

Prisoners in Australia (ABS cat. no. 4517.0)

Recorded Crime - Victims, Australia (ABS cat. no. 4510.0)

Further information can also be found on the Crime and Justice Statistics Theme Page of the ABS website.

Health



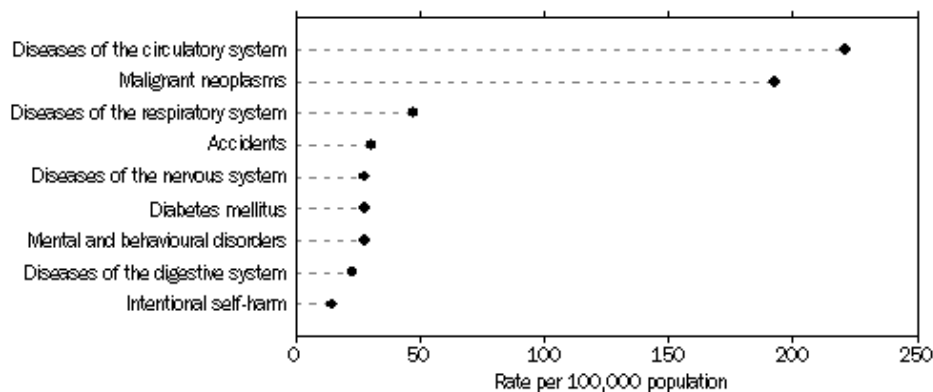
HEALTH

CAUSES OF DEATH

In 2006 the main causes of death in Tasmania included diseases of the circulatory system (1,303 registered deaths), particularly ischaemic heart disease (687 deaths), as well as malignant neoplasms (cancers), with 1,104 registered deaths. Diseases of the circulatory system accounted for over a third (33.3%) of all deaths in Tasmania in 2006, while malignant neoplasms accounted for a further 28.2%.

The standardised death rates for most causes of death have fallen in the last 10 years, with the exception of diabetes mellitus (up from 22.7 deaths per 100,000 to 27.7 deaths per 100,000), mental and behavioural disorders (up from 15.9 deaths per 100,000 population to 27.7 deaths per 100,000), transport accidents (up from 7.6 deaths per 100,000 population to 12.0 deaths per 100,000), and intentional self-harm (up from 11.2 deaths per 100,000 to 14.7 deaths per 100,000).

UNDERLYING CAUSE OF DEATH, Selected causes, standardised death rates, Tasmania, 2006



Source: Causes of Death, Australia (cat. no. 3303.0)

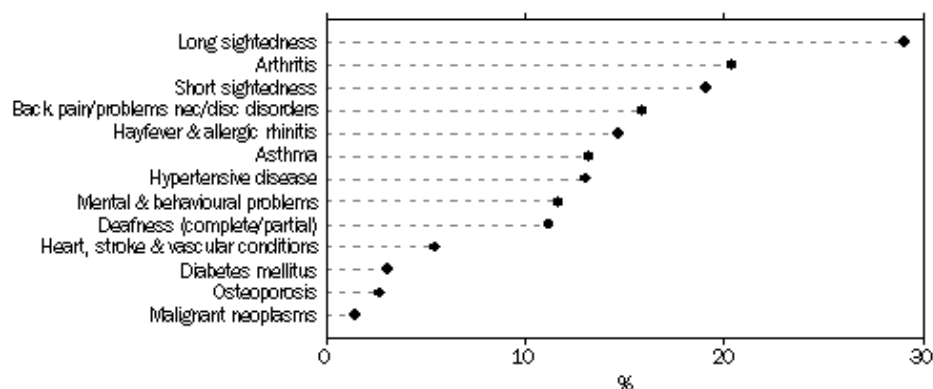
SELECTED LONG TERM CONDITIONS

In 2004–05, the most prevalent long term conditions suffered by Tasmanians were long sightedness (138,000), arthritis (96,600), short sightedness (90,700), and back pain/problems/disc disorders (75,400).

Almost two-thirds (64.0%) of Tasmanians aged 65 years and over suffered from long sightedness, over half (52.0%) suffered from arthritis, almost a third (31.7%) suffered from short sightedness and over a fifth (20.9%) suffered from back pain/disc disorders.

For Tasmanians aged 18–64 years, almost a third (31.4%) suffered from long sightedness, over a fifth suffered from arthritis (21.1%), short sightedness (23.0%), and back pain/disc disorders (20.7%).

SELECTED LONG TERM CONDITIONS, Tasmania, 2004–05



Source: National Health Survey: Summary of Results; State Tables (cat. no. 4362.0)

ACTION TAKEN FOR HEALTH

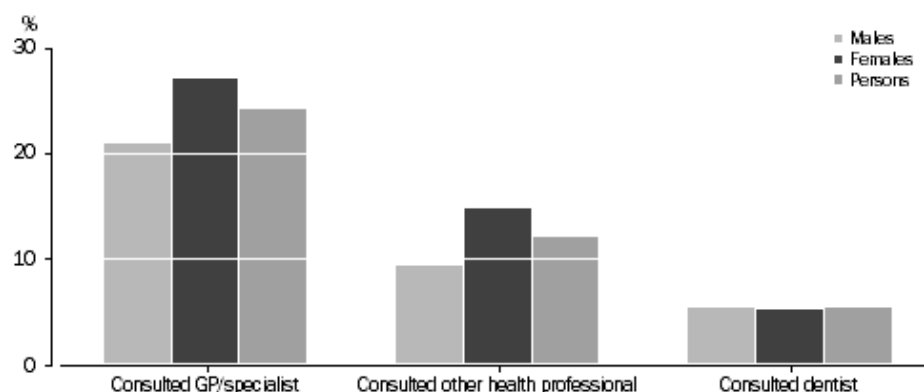
In 2004–05, 41.6% of Tasmanians reported that they had taken some form of action for their health in the two weeks prior to interview, with 24.1% reporting that they had consulted a General Practitioner (GP)/specialist, 12.1% reporting that they had consulted other health professionals, and 5.4% reporting that they had consulted a dentist.

Around 32,500 (6.9% of Tasmanians) reported that they had days away from work/study, with 57,800 (12.2% of Tasmanians) reporting that they had other days of reduced activity in the two weeks prior to interview.

Almost 10% more females (46.1% of all females) reported having taken some form of action for

their health than males (36.9% of all males). Around 27.1% of Tasmanian females reported having consulted a GP/specialist in the two weeks prior to interview compared with 21.0% of males; 14.8% of females reported having consulted other health professionals compared with 9.5% of males; while the percentage of males and females who reported having consulted a dentist were similar, at 5.3% for females and 5.5% for males.

SELECTED ACTION TAKEN FOR HEALTH, TASMANIA, 2004–05



Source: National Health Survey: Summary of Results; State Tables (cat. no. 4362.0)

HEALTH RISK BEHAVIOURS

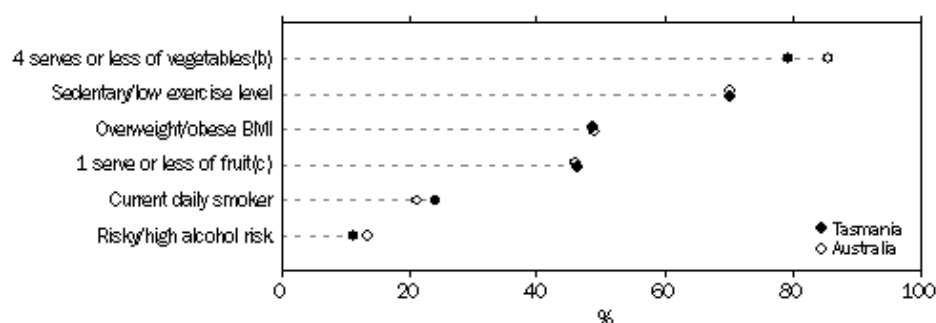
The 2004–05 National Health Survey found that Tasmanians exhibit a number of health risk factors, relating to alcohol consumption, body mass index (BMI), exercise level, and smoking status.

The bulk of the Tasmanian adult population, aged 18 years and over, ate 4 serves or less of vegetables per day: 79.9% of 18–64 year olds, and 77.3% of those aged 65 years and over. Less than half (48.6%) of people aged 18–64 years reported that they ate 1 or less serves of fruit per day, while 36.1% of those aged 65 years and over indicated this to be the case.

Around 68.6% of people aged 18–64 years reported that they were sedentary or had low exercise levels, with 78.3% of those aged 65 years and over indicating this to be the case.

Around 48.3% of Tasmanians aged 18–64 years and 51.0% of those aged 65 years and over were assessed as being overweight.

HEALTH RISK BEHAVIOURS(a), 2004–05



(a) Persons aged 18 years and over.

(b) Includes those who did not eat vegetables.

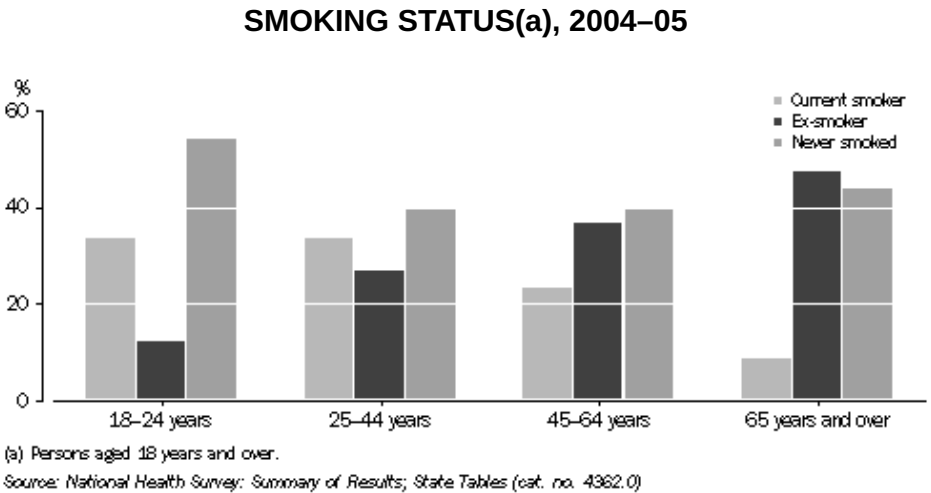
(c) Includes those who did not eat fruit.

Source: National Health Survey: Summary of Results; State Tables (cat. no. 4362.0)

SMOKING

In 2004–05, 25.5% of Tasmanians aged 18 years and over reported that they were current smokers, with 94.7% of those indicating that they were daily smokers. A further 32.3% reported that they were ex-smokers, while 42.2% reported that they had never smoked.

Around 27.5% of Tasmanian males aged 18 years and over reported that they were current smokers while 23.5% of Tasmanian females aged 18 years and over indicated that they were current smokers.



ALCOHOL

The 2004–05 National Health Survey found that 51.1% of Tasmanians aged 18 years and over reported low risk alcohol consumption, i.e. 50 mLs or less average daily consumption of alcohol for males in the 7 days prior to interview and 25 mLs or less for females. A further 7.0% of Tasmanians reported risky alcohol consumption, i.e. more than 50 mLs, up to 75 mLs average daily consumption of alcohol for males and more than 25 mLs, up to 50 mLs for females. Around 4.4% of Tasmanians reported high risk alcohol consumption, i.e. more than 75 mLs average daily consumption of alcohol for males and more than 50 mLs for females.

Around 20.2% of Tasmanian males aged 18 years and over reported that they had last consumed alcohol in the period one week to less than 12 months prior to interview, with a further 7.6% males who reported that they had last consumed alcohol 12 months or longer prior to interview.

Around 29.0% of Tasmanian females aged 18 years and over reported that they had last consumed alcohol in the period one week to less than 12 months prior to interview, with a further 17.7% reporting that they had last consumed alcohol 12 months or longer prior to interview.

BODY MASS INDEX

Body Mass Index was calculated from self-reported height and weight information collected in the 2004–05 National Health Survey. The survey revealed that 37.8% of Tasmanian adult males were considered to be overweight, with a further 17.0% considered obese. The survey also revealed that 25.9% of Tasmanian adult females were considered to be overweight, with a further 17.2% considered obese.

EXERCISE LEVEL

In 2004–05, more than two thirds (70.4%) of Tasmanians aged 18 years and over reported their level of exercise to be sedentary or low; around 34.1% of adult Tasmanians reported their level of exercise as 'sedentary', a further 36.3% reported their level of exercise as 'low'. Another 24.2% indicated their exercise level as 'moderate' and around 5.4% reported their exercise level as 'high'.

DISABILITY STATUS

The 2003 Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers found that around 23.5% of Tasmanians reported some form of disability. Disability was defined as any limitation, restriction or impairment, which has lasted, or is likely to last, for at least six months and restricts everyday activities. Examples ranged from hearing loss which requires the use of a hearing aid, to difficulty dressing due to arthritis, to advanced dementia requiring constant help and supervision. There was little difference in the percentage of males and females with a disability (around 23.2% and 23.8% respectively).

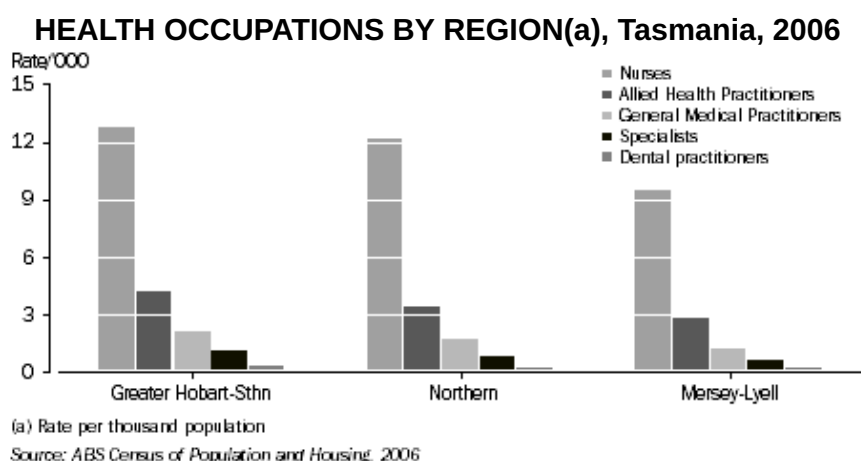
Approximately 18.9% of males and 21.6% of females in the 2003 survey reported having either a core activity limitation (includes communication, mobility and self care), and/or a schooling or employment limitation.

SELECTED HEALTH OCCUPATIONS

The 2006 Census of Population and Housing revealed that there were 5,628 nurses in Tasmania, with 90.1% of them being female. The Greater Hobart and Southern Statistical Divisions (SDs) had 53.0% of the state's nursing population, while Northern SD had 29.0%, and Mersey-Lyell SD had 18.0%. To relate this to the distribution of the State's population, there were 12.7 nurses per thousand people in the Greater Hobart and Southern SDs, 12.2 in the Northern SD and 9.5 in Mersey-Lyell SD.

There were 845 general medical practitioners (GPs) in Tasmania. Some 57.5% of GPs in the state were located in the Greater Hobart and Southern SDs, while a further 27.2% of GPs were located in Northern SD, and another 15.3% of GPs were located in Mersey-Lyell SD. This equated to a rate of 2.1 GPs per thousand people in the Greater Hobart and Southern SDs, 1.7 in the Northern SD and 1.2 in Mersey-Lyell.

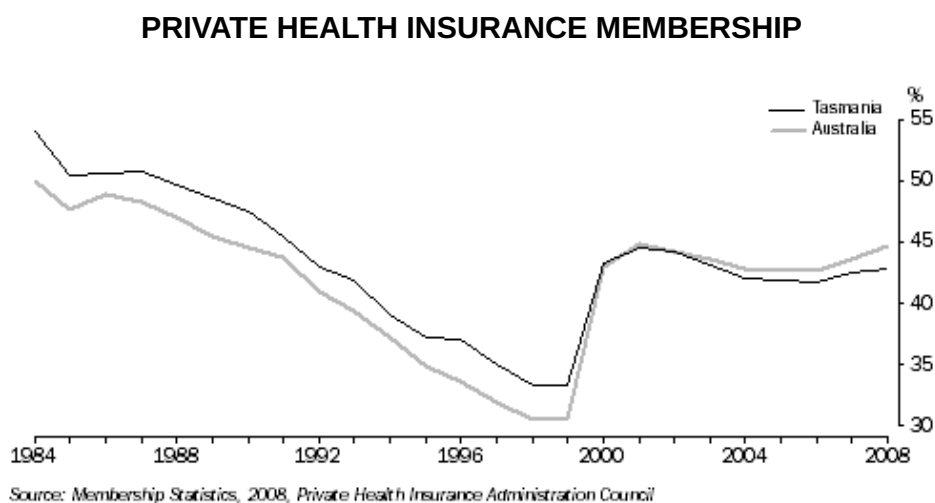
Dental practitioners totalled 134 in Tasmania, with 59.7% located in the Greater Hobart and Southern SDs, 23.9% located in Northern SD, and a further 16.4% located in Mersey-Lyell SD. The rate per thousand was 0.3 in Greater Hobart and Southern SDs, 0.2 in the Northern SD and 0.2 in Mersey-Lyell.



PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE MEMBERSHIP

At June 2008, 42.9% of Tasmanians had private health insurance membership in Tasmania, compared with 44.7% for Australia.

In 1984 private health insurance membership in Tasmania was 236,000 persons (53.9%), while Australia's membership totalled 7,784,000 persons (50.0%). Private health insurance membership in Tasmania and Australia as a whole declined steadily from the late 1980s to 1999. The Private Health Insurance Incentives Scheme Subsidy was introduced in Australia in 1997 and was replaced by a 30% rebate on premiums in January 1999. Following the introduction of the rebate in 1999, private medical insurance membership in Tasmania rose by 10.0% at June of the following year (from 33.3% as at June 1999 to 43.3% as at June 2000). This compared to a 12.4% increase for Australia (from 30.6% as at June 1999 to 43.0% as at June 2000).



SELECTED PRESCRIBED MEDICATION

The rates of Tasmanians taking medications covered in the general schedule under the Prescribed Benefits Scheme in 2006–07 were highest for cholesterol-lowering medications such as atorvastatin and simvastatin. The Tasmanian rate for taking atorvastatin (382 per 1,000 persons) was lower than the Australian rate (444 per 1,000 persons) while the Tasmanian rate for taking simvastatin (347 per 1,000 persons) was higher than the Australian rate (274 per 1,000 persons).

The rate of Tasmanians taking esomeprazole to reduce gastric acid production was 283 per 1,000 persons, which was higher than the Australian rate of 193 per 1,000 persons.

IMMUNISATION

To be fully vaccinated means that children should have received the full schedule of vaccinations appropriate to their age, as determined by the National Immunisation Program. As at June 2008, data from the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register revealed that 91.0% of Tasmanian children aged 12 months to less than 15 months were fully vaccinated, compared with 91.2% for Australia. Rates for children aged 24 months to less than 27 months were higher (93.4% for Tasmania and 92.8% for Australia respectively), while rates for children aged 60 months to less than 63 months were lower (89.8% for Tasmania and 87.3% for Australia respectively).

MENTAL AND BEHAVIOURAL PROBLEMS

The 2004–05 National Health Survey found that over two-thirds (67.2%) of Tasmanians experienced low levels of psychological distress (240,500 persons), while 20.1% reported moderate levels of stress (71,900 persons). About 8.8% (31,500 persons) reported high levels of stress. Of those reporting high levels of stress, people aged 25-44 years accounted for 41.0%, followed by those aged 45-64 years (28.3%). Around 3.8% (13,700 persons) of Tasmanians reported a very high level of stress. Of those, people aged 45-64 years accounted for 43.8%, followed by those aged 25-44 years (34.3%).

ABS SOURCES

Australian Demographic Statistics (ABS cat. no. 3101.0)

Causes of Death, Australia (ABS cat. no. 3303.0)

Disability, Ageing and Carers, Australia: Summary of Findings, 2003 (ABS cat. no. 4430.0)

Involvement in Organised Sport and Physical Activity, Australia (ABS cat. no. 6285.0)

Medicare Australia, *Australian Childhood Immunisation Register statistics*, *Pharmaceutical Benefits Schedule Item Reports*

National Health Survey: Summary of Results, 2004-05 (ABS cat. no. 4364.0)

National Health Survey: Summary of Results; State Tables, 2004-05 (ABS cat. no. 4362.0)

Private Health Insurance Administration Council 2008, *Membership Statistics*

Further information can also be found on the Health Statistics Theme Page and the Census Statistics Theme Page on the ABS website.

Environment



ENVIRONMENT

TASMANIA AND THE ENVIRONMENT

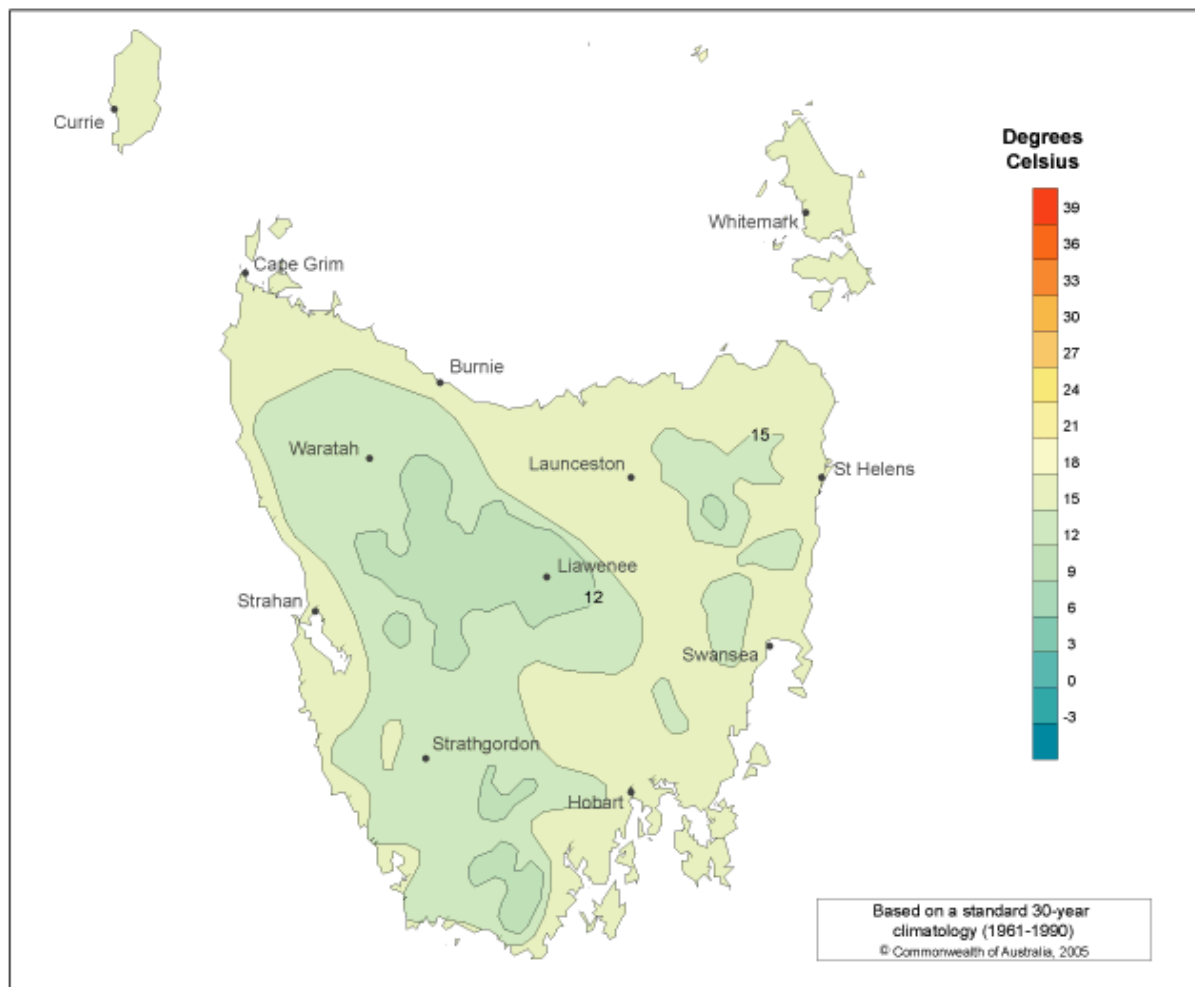
According to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, 'climate change' refers to change which is directly or indirectly attributed to human behaviours. Such behaviours have led to the altering of Earth's atmosphere in addition to expected, natural climate variability over time (United Nations - UN 1992).

For Tasmania, it is difficult to predict what the effects of climate change will be in the future. Global climate models provide only one or two points of information about Tasmania (The Antarctic Climate and Ecosystems Cooperative Research Centre - ACE CRC 2007). According to the Garnaut Climate Change Review (Garnaut R 2008), as a result of climate change, Tasmania will begin to experience small changes in climate resulting in warmer weather, increasing storm events and decreased livestock capacity.

CLIMATE

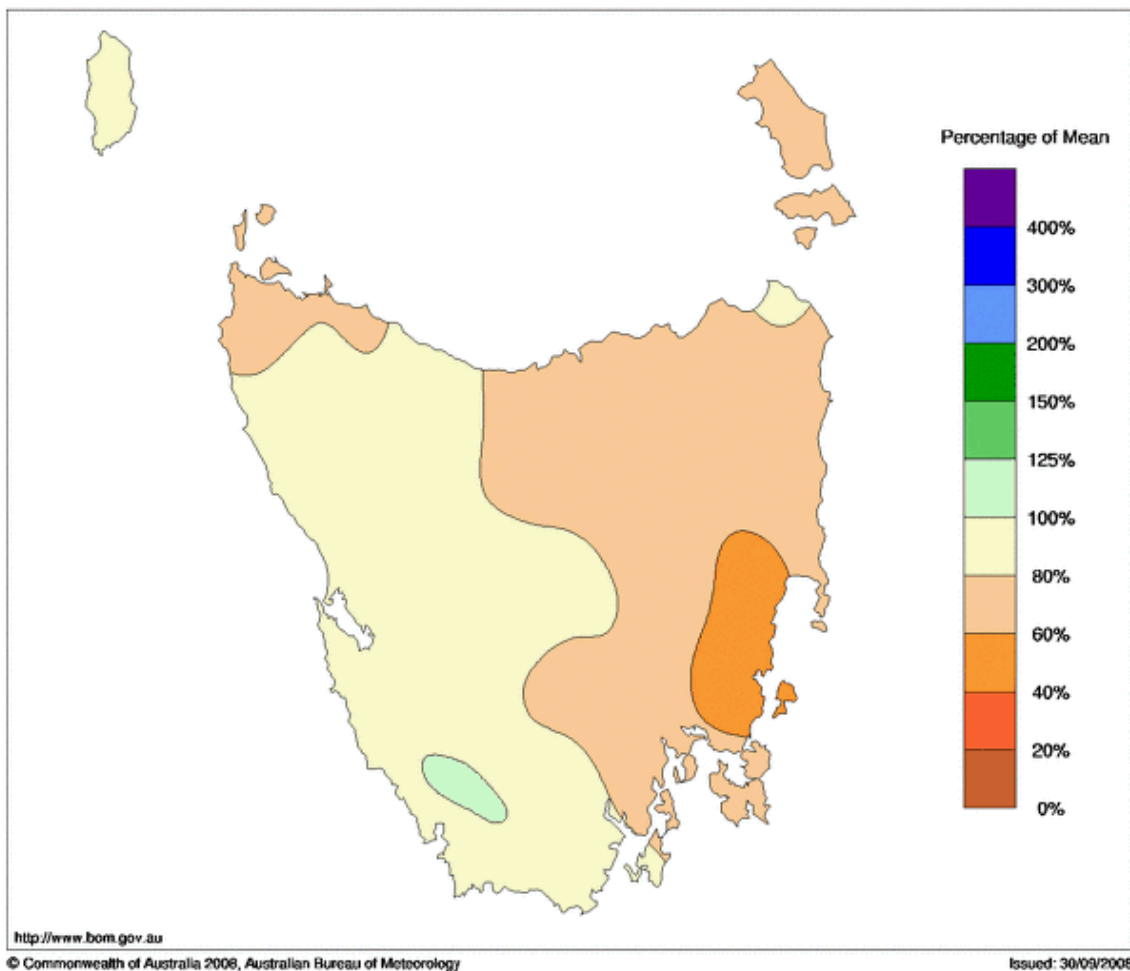
In Tasmania, tree ring records have shown major changes over the past 3,000 years in the intensity of climate variability, with the last change calculated to have been around 1900 (Commonwealth Scientific and Research Organisation and Bureau of Meteorology - CSIRO and BoM 2007). Over the last century, Tasmania's state-wide average temperature has risen by nearly 1°C. Tasmania has experienced its warmest years in recent times; 2007 was the second warmest year on record, with the mean temperature 0.77°C above normal. Rainfall totals in 2007 were below average, particularly along the east coast and southern midlands (BoM 2008).

MEAN DAILY MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE, Tasmania, annual to 2008



Source: Bureau of Meteorology, 2008

PERCENTAGE OF MEAN RAINFALL, Tasmania, 1 Jan-31 Oct 2008



Source: Bureau of Meteorology, 2008

A CSIRO evaluation of 13 climate change models (where Tasmania and Victoria were considered as one region) predicted that the extent and frequency of extremely hot and dry years will increase in the future. More specifically, it is projected that between 2010-2040, extremely hot years will be experienced by approximately 75% of the region every 1.3 years on average, 10% will experience years of extremely low rainfall approximately every 12 years, and that by 2030, 11% of the region will experience extremely low soil moisture every 9 years (CSIRO and BoM 2008).

WATER

With increasing temperature and decreasing rainfall trends, it follows that water availability and consumption patterns will also be affected by climate change.

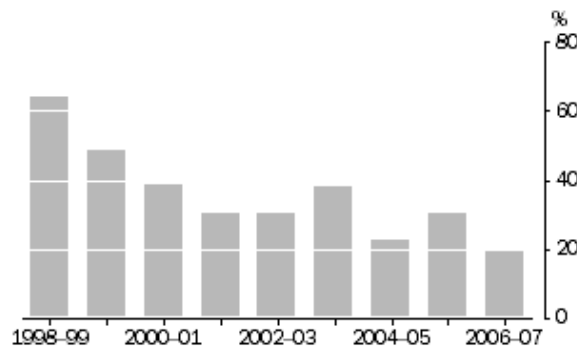
Water Consumption

In 1999, Hydro Tasmania's water storage was at 64.1% of capacity (Hydro-electric Corporation 2002). In June 2007, storage levels had reduced to 19.3% of capacity, with a low of 16.9% in May 2007. Such a fall, to below 20% of total capacity, has not occurred since 1967, which at that time led to the restriction of power and the need to locate over 100 megawatts of power from other generation sources. Such conditions over the 2006-07 financial year led to notable water, environmental and energy management issues for Tasmania's largest energy producer (Hydro-electric Corporation 2007).

Tasmania's water consumption increased 4.1% to 434 giganlitres (GL) from 2000-01 to 2004-05. In 2004-05, agriculture was the largest consumer of water, accounting for 59.4% of all water consumed, followed by households (16.0%), and manufacturing (11.3%). Water consumption by

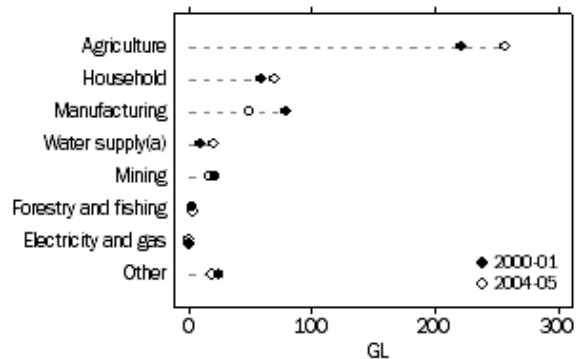
agriculture increased 16.3%, from 221.6 GL in 2000-01 to 257.8 GL in 2004-05. During the same period, household water consumption increased 17.1%, from 59.3 GL to 69.4 GL, while manufacturing consumed 38.2% less water, decreasing from 79 GL to 49 GL.

HYDRO TASMANIA, Percentage of water storage capacity



Source: Hydro Tasmania Annual Report, 2002-03, 2006, 2007, Hydro-electric Corporation

WATER CONSUMPTION, Tasmania, By industry

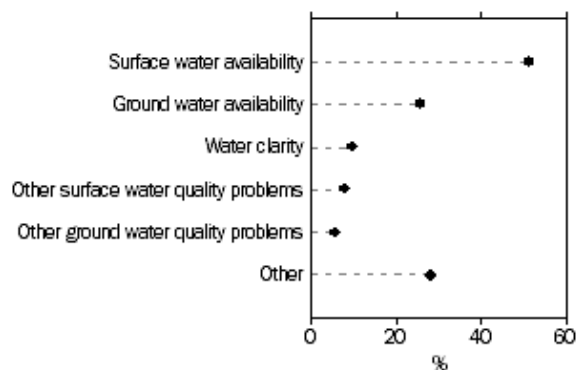


(a) Includes sewerage and drainage services.

Source: Water Account, Australia, 2004-05 (cat. no. 4610.0)

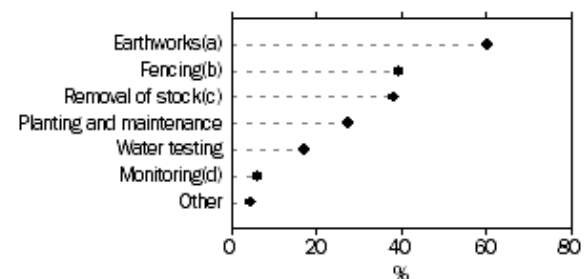
In 2004-05, 28.4% of Tasmanian agricultural businesses reported water issues, compared with 38.1% nationally. Surface water availability was the greatest issue (51.3%). Over one third (34.3%) of Tasmanian agricultural businesses reported initiating water activities, compared with 32.9% nationally. Earthworks were the main activities undertaken (60.3%).

REPORTED AGRICULTURAL WATER ISSUES, Tasmania, 2004-05



Source: Natural Resource Management on Australian Farms Reissue, 2004-05 (cat. no. 4620.0)

REPORTED AGRICULTURAL WATER ACTIVITIES, Tasmania, 2004-05



(a) Includes drains and water pumping.

(b) To protect riparian zones.

(c) From waterways.

(d) Of ground-water table.

Source: Natural Resource Management on Australian Farms Reissue, 2004-05 (cat. no. 4620.0)

COASTAL IMPACT

Sea Level

An Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report on past analyses of changes in sea level concluded that, from tide gauge data, the average sea level rise across the world during the last century was between 1.0 to 2.0 mm per year. This average rate of rising is higher than during the nineteenth century (Church, Gregory, Huybrechts, Kuhn, Lambeck, Nhuan, Qin and Woodworth 2001).

From observations of the sea level at Port Arthur between 1841 and 2002, an average yearly sea level rise, relative to the land, of approximately 0.8 mm per year has been recorded. Average sea level increase at Port Arthur, as a result of the increased volume of the ocean, is estimated to be

approximately 1.0 mm per year (Hunter, Coleman and Pugh 2003). This indicates a sea level rise in excess of 13.0 cm between 1841 and 2002 (Hunter, Coleman and Pugh 2002).

Sea Temperature

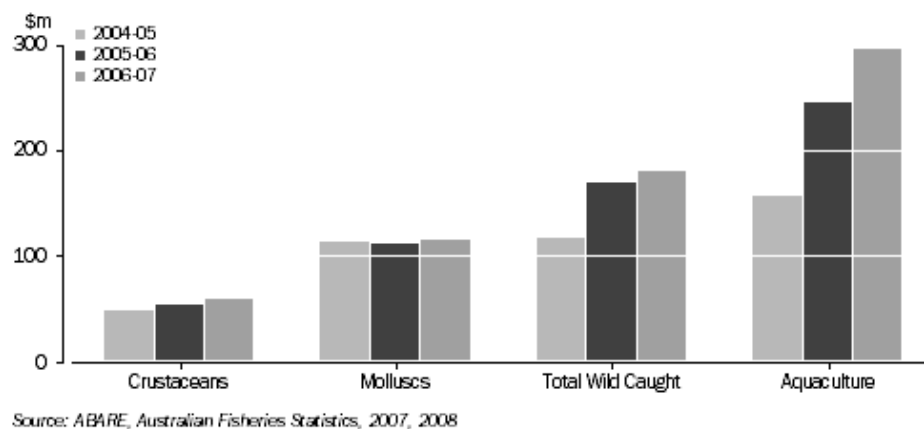
Hydrological records from Maria Island dating back to 1944, indicate that the sea surface temperature has risen as a result of the increased strength and southern extension of the East Australian Current (Harris, Nilsson, Clementson and Thomas 1987). Analyses between 1944 and 1998 reveal that the sea temperature has increased by over 1°C (Crawford, Edgar and Cresswell 2000).

Fisheries/Aquaculture

It is known that increasing average water temperatures in coastal regions will most likely affect aquaculture production (Tasmanian Climate Change Office, Department of Premier and Cabinet 2008). In particular, Tasmania's heavy reliance on the success of salmonid production will be of concern, since Atlantic salmon - which accounts for the majority of salmonid products - are already near their high temperature limit in southern Tasmania (Pittock B 2003).

The gross value of total fisheries production has grown 46.8% from 2004-05 to 2006-07, creating \$475m for the Tasmanian economy in 2006-07. Between 2002-03 and 2006-07, farmed salmonid production increased by 130% (\$154m) in value to \$272m, accounting for 57% of Tasmania's gross value of fisheries production (Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics (ABARE) 2008).

FISHERIES PRODUCTION, Gross value, Tasmania



AGRICULTURAL IMPACT

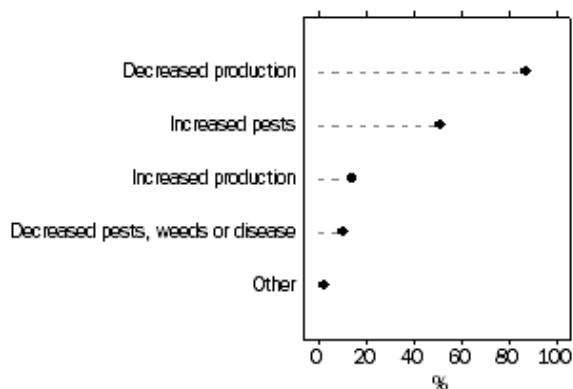
Climate

In 2006-07, of those agricultural businesses which believed the climate affecting their holding had changed, the largest proportion that modified their management practices as a result was in the North West NRM region (74.1%), followed by the Northern region (72.8%) and the Southern region (69.6%). Overall, Tasmania has a lower proportion of agricultural businesses modifying practices (72.3%) than the national average (75.4%). In regard to the impact of climate change on their holding, Tasmanians most commonly reported decreased production and increased pest, weeds or disease occurrences.

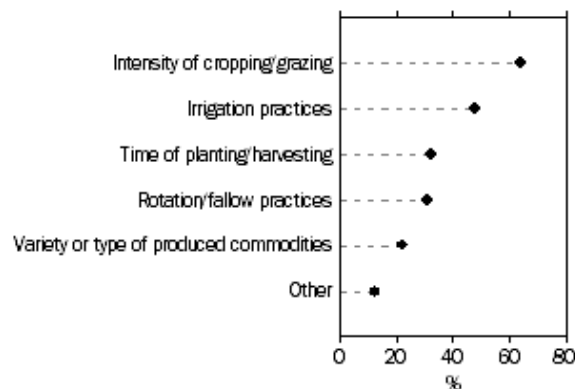
Of those agricultural businesses which made modifications to their management practices, most (64.4%) changed the intensity of cropping and/or grazing, followed by modification of irrigation practices (47.8%), and time of planting and/or harvesting (32.3%). Less than a quarter (22.5%)

modified the type or variety of commodity they produced.

REPORTED IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE, REPORTED MODIFIED LAND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES, Tasmania, 2006-07



Source: Climate and Australian Farms (cat. no. 4625.0)



Source: Climate and Australian Farms (cat. no. 4625.0)

Natural Resource Management (NRM)

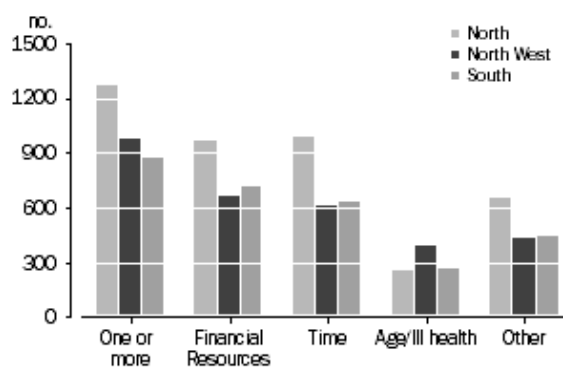
Changes to a region's climate impact on its natural resources. NRM is the management of native vegetation, weed, pest, land, soil and water.

In 2006-07 the proportion of agricultural businesses in Tasmania reporting NRM related problems on their properties was 83.4%, which was lower than the national level (86.7%). Northern Tasmania showed a slightly higher proportion of agricultural businesses with NRM related problems (86.9%) than Southern Tasmania (86.3%), followed by the North West (77.6%).

65.5% of Tasmanian agricultural business reported barriers to improving NRM on their holding which was below the national level (71.0%).

The most commonly reported barrier to improving NRM on an agricultural holding across Australia was lack of financial resources. This was reported by 75.4% of Tasmanian agricultural businesses and 78.9% of all Australian agricultural businesses as one of the barriers.

BARRIERS TO IMPROVING NRM, Tasmania, By NRM region, 2006-07



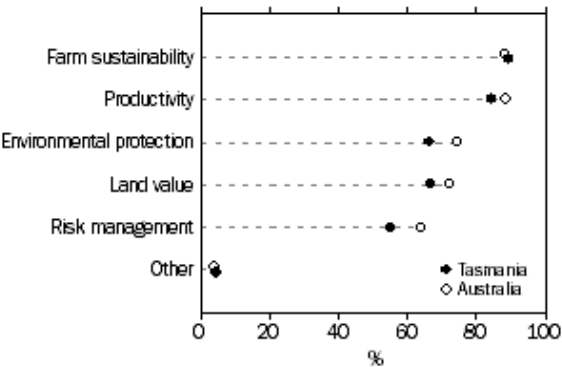
Source: Natural Resource Management on Australian Farms, 2006-07 (cat. no. 4620.0)

In 2006-07, 63.4% of Tasmanian agricultural businesses reported improving NRM practices on their holding compared to 65.8% nationally. The most reported reason for improving NRM practices in Tasmania was farm sustainability (89.5%) followed closely by increased productivity

(84.4%).

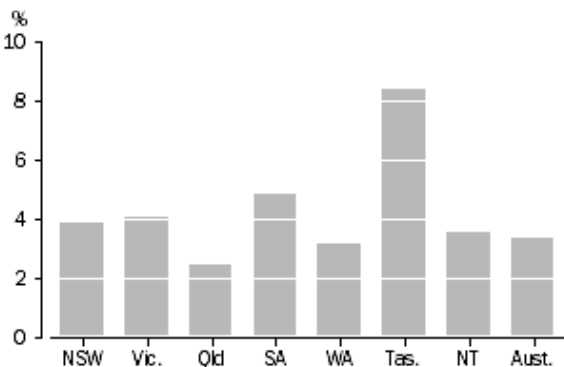
Of the 1.7 million hectares of agricultural land in Tasmania in 2006-07, 8.4% was set aside for conservation or protection purposes. Nationally, only 3.4% of Australia's 425 million hectares of agricultural land was set aside. However, 14.7% of Tasmanian agricultural properties took part in Landcare programs and 21.2% participated in some kind of conservation program in 2006-07.

REASONS FOR IMPROVING NRM PRACTICES, 2006-07



Source: Natural Resource Management on Australian Farms, 2006-07 (cat. no. 4620.0)

PROPORTION OF LAND SET ASIDE FOR CONSERVATION, 2006-07



Source: Natural Resource Management on Australian Farms, 2006-07 (cat. no. 4620.0)

ENERGY

Consumption

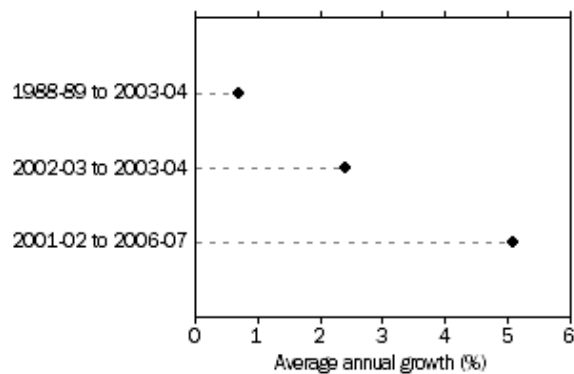
Between 2001-02 and 2006-07, Tasmania's average annual growth in energy consumption was 5.1%, compared with 2.4% for Australia. Energy consumption growth for 2006-07 alone was 4.9% in Tasmania and 2.3% nationally (ABARE 2008a).

Tasmania's largest energy consumer in 1973-74 was manufacturing; consuming 30.3 petajoules (PJ) of the state's total 71.9 PJ consumed. This trend was the same nationally with manufacturing consuming 918.0 PJ of the total 2 615.2 PJ of all energy consumed (ABARE 2008b).

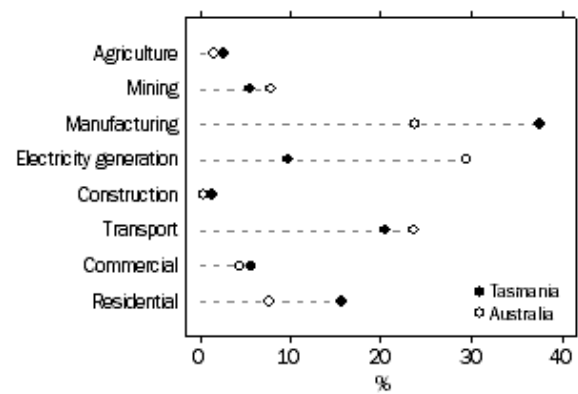
In 2006-07, manufacturing remained the largest consumer of energy in Tasmania, accounting for 47.2 PJ of the state's 125.9 PJ energy consumption. At a national level, electricity generation consumed the largest portion of all energy consumption, accounting for 1,694.9 PJ of the total 5,769.8 PJ (ABARE 2008b). This is largely explained by mainland Australia's current heavy reliance on the burning of coal for electricity generation.

ENERGY CONSUMPTION, Tasmania

ENERGY CONSUMPTION, by industry, 2006-07



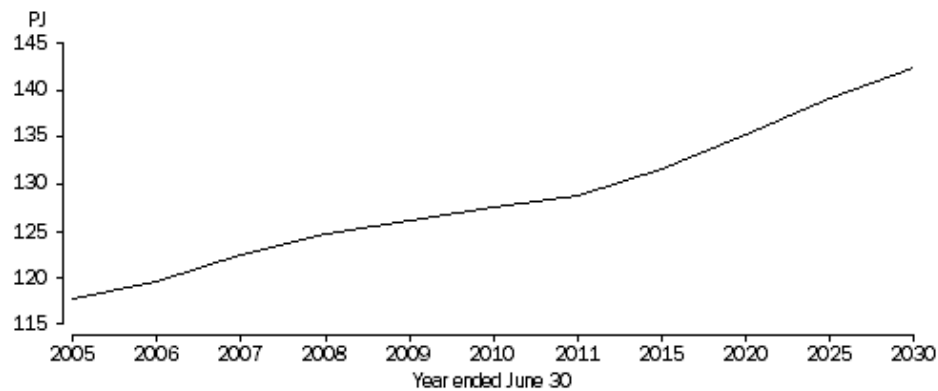
Source: ABARE, Energy Update, 2004, 2005



Source: ABARE, Energy Consumption in Australia, by Industry, 2008

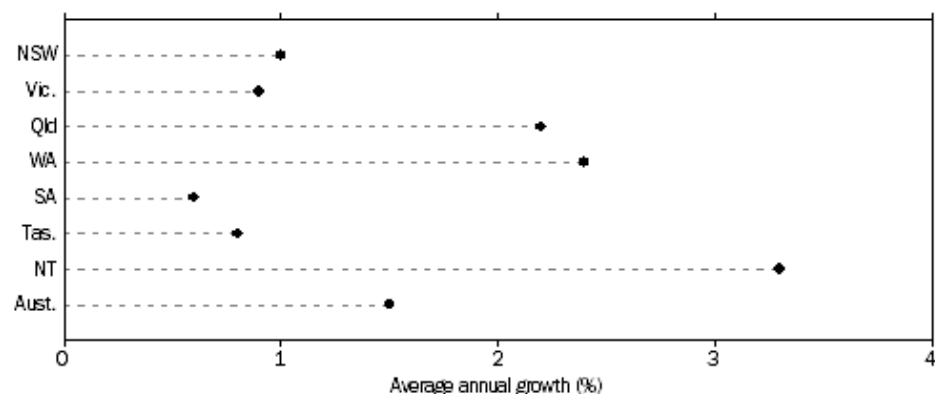
Between 2004-05 to 2029-30, Tasmania's primary energy consumption is projected to grow, on average, 0.8% annually and Australia's consumption is expected to grow 1.5% annually (Cuevas-Cubria and Riwoe, 2006).

PRIMARY ENERGY CONSUMPTION PROJECTIONS, Tasmania



Source: ABARE, Australian Energy National and State Projections 2029-30, 2006

PRIMARY ENERGY CONSUMPTION PROJECTIONS, Australia, 2004-05 to 2029-30



Source: ABARE, Australian Energy National and State Projections 2029-30, 2006

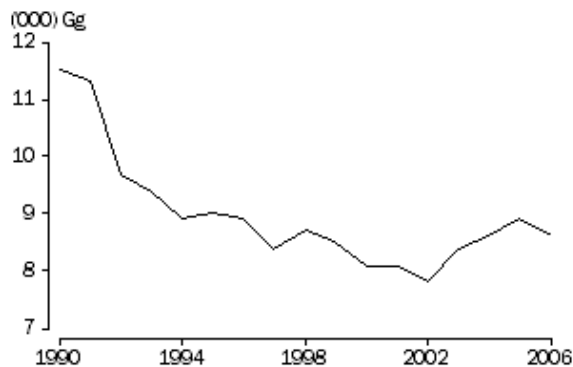
GREENHOUSE EMISSIONS

Greenhouse gases are those constituents of the atmosphere that absorb and re-emit infra-red radiation (UN 1992).

State and Territory Greenhouse Gas Inventories attempt to measure the amount of greenhouse gas (and their precursors) which is released into the atmosphere. In 2006, Tasmania's greenhouse gas emissions totalled 8,547 gigagrams (Gg) of carbon dioxide equivalent which is approximately 1.5% of Australia's emissions total of 576,035Gg (Australian Government Department of Climate Change, 2008d).

Between 1990 and 2006, carbon dioxide equivalent greenhouse gas emissions in Tasmania decreased 25.2% while at a national level, emissions increased 4.2% over the same timeframe (Australian Government Department of Climate Change, 2008e).

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS, Tasmania GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS, Australia



Source: Australian National Greenhouse Accounts, 2008, Department of Climate Change



Source: Australian National Greenhouse Accounts, 2008, Department of Climate Change

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Further information can also be found on the Environment and Energy Statistics Theme Page and the Agriculture Statistics Theme Page of the ABS website.

Index of Feature Articles



INDEX OF FEATURE ARTICLES

30/01/09 | Tasmania's unemployment rate at record low: A discussion of recent trends in Tasmanian labour force statistics, which also explains some of the more common labour force concepts and definitions in understandable

language. Uses data from the ABS monthly and quarterly Labour Force surveys.

31/10/08 | People with a Need for Assistance in Tasmania, 2006: Using data from the 2006 Census of Population and Housing, this article looks at the Tasmanian population needing assistance with daily core activities, and analyses their age and geographic distribution, living arrangements, home ownership levels, labour force status and occupation types.

31/07/08 | Adult Literacy in Tasmania, 2006: Examines the Tasmanian results from the 2006 Adult Literacy and Life Skills Survey, which collected and assessed information on the literacy skills of Australians across a range of literacy domains: prose literacy; document literacy; numeracy; and problem solving.

30/04/08 | Ageing in Tasmania, 2006: Australia has an ageing population, with Tasmania the oldest and fastest ageing of the States and Territories. This article explores what we know about Tasmania's ageing population through analysing a selected range of indicators from the 2006 Population Census.

31/01/08 | Tasmanian Housing Indicators: This article presents a range of housing indicators for Tasmania, drawn from a variety of ABS sources. It aims to illustrate the wider economic influences behind recent movements in the supply, demand and price of housing in Tasmania.

About this Release

A compendium of summary statistical information about Tasmania. Information is presented by topic, with more detailed data in Excel spreadsheets. Contains summary commentary, tables, maps and graphs. Some non-ABS and regional data is also included. Topics covered include labour force, wages and prices, tourism, finance, state accounts, population, household and family characteristics, education, health and environment.

Replaces: Statistics, Tasmania (1384.6) and Regional Statistics, Tasmania (1362.6).

Tasmania's unemployment at record low (Feature Article)

Tasmania's unemployment rate at record low

Introduction

The Labour Force Explained

Unemployment Rate

Participation Rate

Changes to the Labour Market

Glossary

References

INTRODUCTION

In October 2008 trend labour force estimates indicated that Tasmania was experiencing the lowest unemployment rate and the highest participation rate on record. This was largely due to the high proportion of people employed part-time, particularly females. The unemployment rate in trend terms fell to an historic low of 3.7%, marking the lowest level of unemployment since the current series began in 1978. It was also the fourth consecutive month that Tasmania had recorded an unemployment rate below that of the national rate (4.3% in October 2008), and the first time since 1980 that Tasmania had experienced a sustained period of unemployment at a consistently lower rate than the national average.

Why use trend data?

Labour force figures are produced as either seasonally adjusted or trend estimates. Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from the

series so that the effects of other influences, such as holiday periods, can be more clearly recognised. Seasonal adjustment does not aim to remove the irregular or non-seasonal influences which may be present in any particular month. This means that month-to-month movements of the seasonally adjusted estimates may not be reliable indicators of trend behaviour. The smoothing of seasonally adjusted series to produce trend series reduces the impact of the irregular component of the seasonally adjusted series. Trend estimates are used to analyse the underlying behaviour of a series over time, providing a more accurate indication of real movements in the labour force.

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THE LABOUR FORCE EXPLAINED

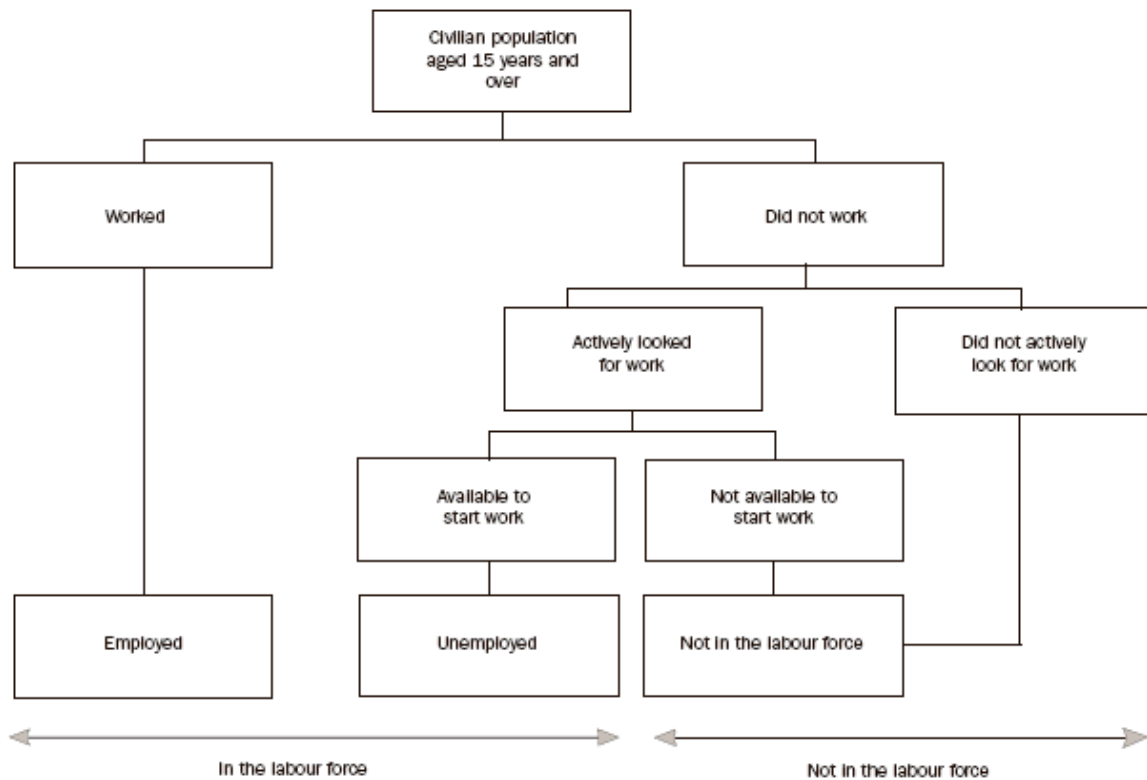
The labour force includes all people aged 15 years and over who are employed or unemployed. To be classified as employed, a person must have worked for one hour or more during the reference week, on either a full-time, part-time, temporary or casual basis. They qualify as being employed if they:

- work for payment or profit, or as an unpaid helper in a family business;
- have a job from which they are on leave or otherwise temporarily absent;
- are on strike or stood down temporarily.

People are classified as unemployed if they do not have a job but are actively looking for work and are available to start work.

People aged 15 years and over who are neither employed nor unemployed are classified as being not in the labour force. This includes people who are retired, pensioners and people engaged solely in home duties.

Australian labour force framework(a)



(a) This diagram provides a simple overview. The detailed rules for determining whether a person is classified as employed, unemployed or not in the labour force are outlined in 'Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods' (6102.0.55.001).

Source: *Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (6102.0.55.001).

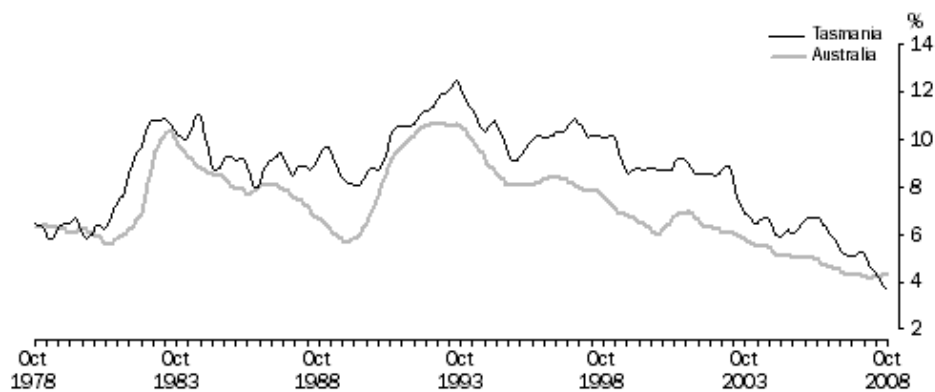
The concepts and definitions underlying Australian labour statistics are based on the conventions, recommendations and guidelines developed and maintained by the International Labour Organisation and the United Nations Statistical Office. Australian labour statistics comply in almost every respect with these international standards. Labour force figures are derived from the Labour Force Survey component of the Monthly Population Survey. The Labour Force Survey includes all persons aged 15 years and over except members of the permanent defence forces, certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments customarily excluded from census and estimated population counts, overseas residents in Australia, and members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

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UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

Tasmania has experienced a marked decline in unemployment over the last 15 years, from a high of 12.5% in August 1993 to the record low in October 2008 (3.7%). During the same period, the unemployment rate for Australia has also been in steady decline, falling from 10.7% to 4.3%.

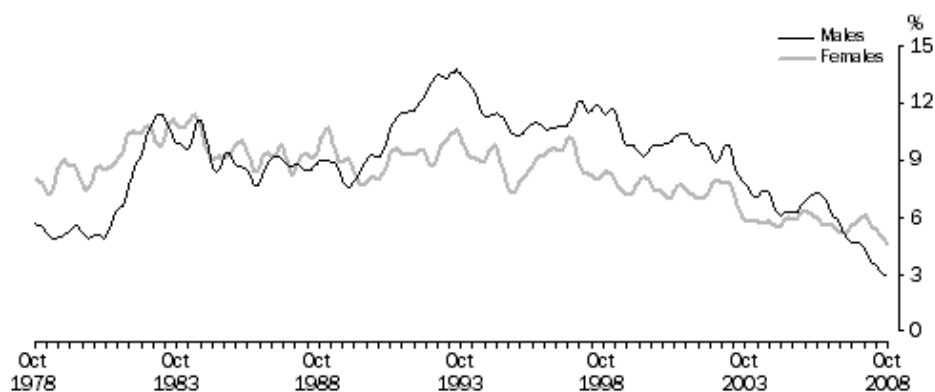
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (Trend estimates)



Source: Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets, October 2008 (cat. no. 6202.0.55.001)

Prior to 1990, females in Tasmania traditionally had a higher unemployment rate than males. However, this trend has been reversed over recent decades, as the participation rate for females has correspondingly increased.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, Tasmania (Trend estimates)



Source: Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets, October 2008 (cat. no. 6202.0.55.001)

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PARTICIPATION RATE

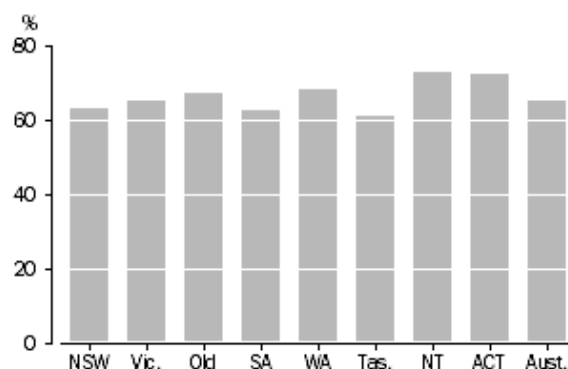
The labour force participation rate is one of the most important indicators for analysing the overall level of labour market activity. The participation rate is calculated by dividing the total number of people in the labour force by the total number of people in the civilian population aged 15 years and over. Analysis of participation rates, particularly by age, sex and family type, provides the basis for monitoring changes in the size and composition of the labour supply.

Australia has a high labour force participation rate by international standards. Labour force participation is important for the economic wellbeing of a community, and also for the individuals within it. Participation in the labour force can help to boost self esteem as well as improve financial security and social connectedness.

Despite the participation rate in Tasmania being at a record high (60.9%) in October 2008, in the 2007-08 financial year Tasmania had the lowest participation rate of all the states and territories (65.2% for Australia). This can be largely attributed to the older population profile of the state. According to the 2006 Census, 14.9% of Tasmania's population were aged 65 years and over, compared with 13.3% for Australia, and only 7.0% of Tasmanians aged 65 years and over were reported to be in the labour force. Most people in this age group were retired and as such would be classified as not participating in the labour force.

Additionally, Tasmania had the lowest retention rate (65.3%) of students progressing from Year 10 to Year 12 (75.6% for Australia). This may also be impacting on levels of participation in the labour force. People may lack the necessary skills and qualifications required for the jobs that are available. Working to improve school retention rates and encouraging the pursuit of non-school qualifications will be essential to maintaining and further expanding a skilled and adaptive workforce in Tasmania.

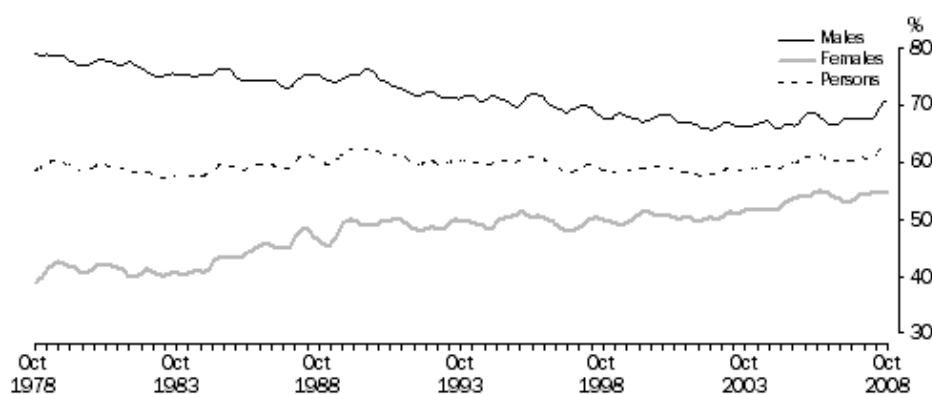
PARTICIPATION RATE, 2007-08 (Trend estimates)



Source: Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets, October 2008 (cat. no. 6202.0.55.001)

Traditionally, males have had a higher participation rate than females, but due to cultural and economic shifts in recent decades, there has been a dramatic rise in the proportion of females participating in the labour force. The female participation rate in Tasmania increased from 38.8% in October 1978 to 54.8% in October 2008. In contrast, the male participation rate decreased from 79.1% to 70.8% over the same period, narrowing the gap between the two considerably.

PARTICIPATION RATE, Tasmania (Trend estimates)



Source: Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets, October 2008 (cat. no. 6202.0.55.001)

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CHANGES TO THE LABOUR MARKET

The labour market is far more dynamic than ever before. There is greater mobility as people, particularly younger people, choose to experience several different jobs in their lifetime rather than commit to a single job for life. Females are more likely to work part-time, and as a result, generally have a higher rate of underemployment than males.

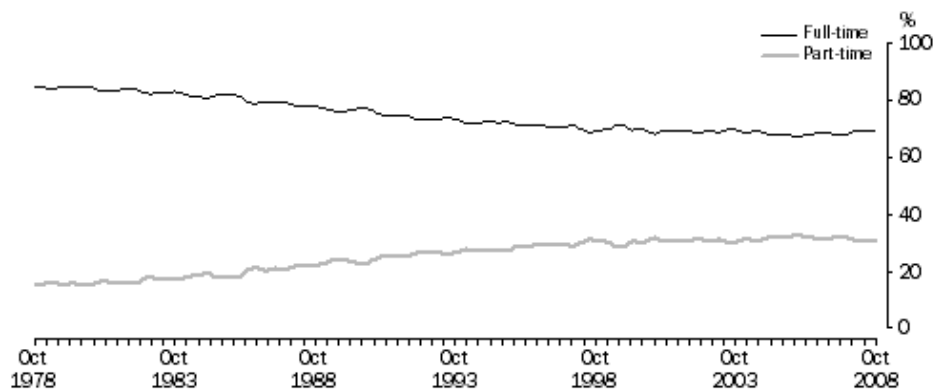
Underemployed workers are employed persons who want, and are available for, more hours of work than they currently have. They comprise:

(a) persons employed part-time who want to work more hours and are available to start work with more hours, either in the reference week or in the four weeks subsequent to the survey and (b) persons employed full-time who worked part-time hours in the reference week for economic reasons (such as being stood down or insufficient work being available). It is assumed that these people wanted to work full-time in the reference week and would have been available to do so.

Female participation has increased, as has the flexibility of employment conditions and arrangements. Workplaces are generally more responsive to the needs of their employees in their quest to improve their work/life balance. This could be attributed to the increased number of females in the labour force balancing family responsibilities with their work.

As a result of these more flexible working arrangements and lifestyle choices, a greater proportion of people are now employed on a casual or part-time basis, while the proportion of people employed full-time has decreased steadily over the last few decades.

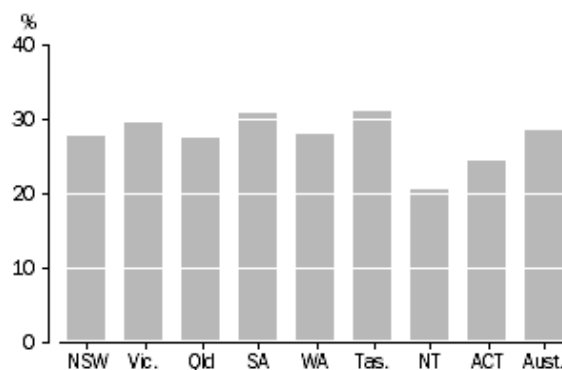
EMPLOYED PERSONS, Tasmania (Trend estimates)



Source: Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets, October 2008 (cat. no. 6202.0.55.001)

In 2007-08, Tasmania had the highest proportion of people employed part-time with almost one third (31.1%) of the total employed being part-time, compared with 28.4% for Australia.

PERSONS EMPLOYED PART-TIME, of total employed, 2007-08 (Trend estimates)



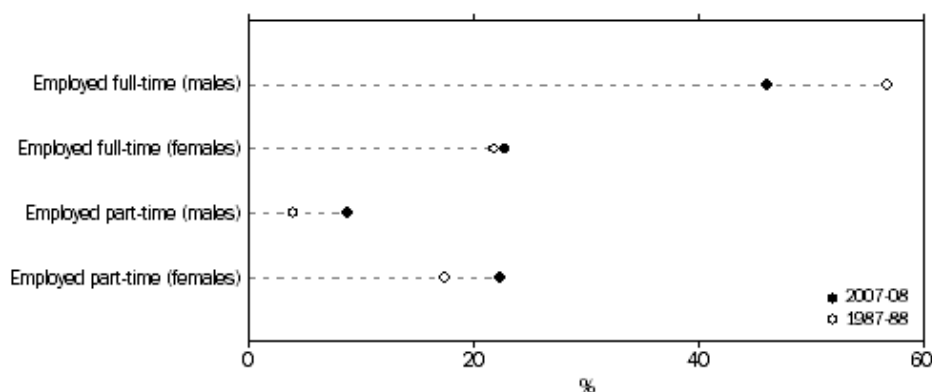
Source: Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets, October 2008 (cat. no. 6202.0.55.001)

In 2007-08, females employed part-time represented almost one quarter (22.4%) of the total

persons employed in Tasmania. Males employed part-time represented 8.8% of all employed persons. This contrasted markedly to the situation of 20 years ago, when females employed part-time in 1987/88 represented 17.4% and males 3.9% respectively.

Males employed full-time in 2007-08 represented less than half (46.1%) of the total persons employed, while females represented 22.8%. In 1987-88, males employed full-time represented 56.8% of all employed persons, while females represented 21.8%.

EMPLOYED PERSONS, Tasmania (Trend estimates)



Source: Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets, October 2008 (cat. no. 6202.0.55.001)

Casual employment has been a growth area in recent years. It can provide greater flexibility for balancing work, family, study and other commitments, but casual employees may not necessarily receive the same entitlements as their full-time, on-going colleagues. They may not have access to training or career advancement opportunities. Similarly, casual or part-time employees may encounter barriers to full-time employment such as lacking the necessary skills or experience for the jobs available or the jobs available may lack the flexibility required to accommodate their caring responsibilities. Removing such barriers will become increasingly important in attracting and retaining staff as the population continues to age.

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GLOSSARY

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